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FROM THE LIVING END

GCN membership votes to temporarily suspend GCN for restructuring

By Sue Hyde

BOSTON—Shortly after turning 19 years old, *Gay Community News*, the groundbreaking community-based gay and lesbian newspaper, will suspend publication, pending the outcome of a community meeting to be held on Thursday, July 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the Piemonte Room at Boston City Hall.

At the July 23 meeting, proposals for restructuring and reorganizing publishing and financial operations will be considered.

[*Gay Community News* will go ahead with previous plans to relocate to new office space at 25 West St. in downtown Boston on July 11.]

The decision to suspend publication temporarily was made at a June 28 emergency meeting attended by about 50 people, including members of the staff and the board of directors, volunteers, donors, readers and former staff and board members.

During the tense and urgent four-hour meeting, many suggestions and proposals were made, ranging from permanently closing down the paper to merging with other papers to rallying the community to continue the paper with its current format and organizational structure.

For the past 12 months, *Gay Community News* has been beset by financial problems, including a \$66,000 debt and a monthly shortfall of about \$6000 to meet operating expenses. Although readers and donors generously helped *GCN* to pay off back taxes owed to the federal government and to continue printing the paper during the winter and spring, the current summer lull in financial support has left *GCN* in worsening financial shape.

Because of the financial problems, the paper's staffing level has fallen from a ten-person staff to a six-person staff, requiring remaining staff to assume many additional responsibilities. At the same time, the membership of the board of directors has fallen to three people and volunteers are down to a half dozen people per week. *GCN* was founded and originally run by a strong volunteer base.

At the meeting, *GCN* supporters engaged in a passionate discussion of *GCN*'s role and niche as an independent community-based publication. Supporters cited *GCN*'s coverage of sex and sexuality, its politically progressive viewpoint, its inclusion of gay and lesbian communities of color, its willingness to publish more risky material, and its important function as an information source for lesbians and gay men living outside the major urban centers of gay and lesbian life.

But some supporters also raised doubts about the paper's ability to remain solvent during the current economic recession and because of increasing conservatism in the gay and lesbian community.

Charlie Shively, a longtime supporter and writer for *GCN*, and founder of *Fag Rag*, said, "It would be a terrible fate to close the paper on the anniversary of the Stonewall Riot. But I've seen everything tried. If the staff wants [*GCN*] to continue, it should."

Marla Erlien, another longtime supporter and member of the editorial board of *Radical America*, noted that many progressive publications survive by having benefactors who underwrite operations. "At this moment, there are a number of outlets in the alternative media that are experiencing similar financial trouble, including *Dollars & Sense*, *Z magazine*, *The Guardian*," she said. "A bigger question for us is what is going on in the alternative press?"

The board of directors, which called the June 28 meeting, suggested that *GCN* could continue only by an influx of community energy. The board asked for five new board members, 12-15 new members of working committees, and 20 volunteers giving five to eight hours a week.

Instead, 14 people agreed to give more than 5 hours a week, a dozen were willing to work on financial and editorial committees and others said they could commit less time. Only one man was willing to join the board in *GCN*'s current situation, and only one current board member was willing to remain on the board.

A proposal to close the paper permanently was defeated overwhelmingly. According to the paper's bylaws, approval by at least two-thirds of the "membership"—current and former staff, board, volunteers and donors—in attendance is necessary to permanently close *GCN*.

A series of proposals and votes resulted in the following decisions: The July 3 issue of *GCN* would be published as planned, but the July 17 issue would not; *GCN* would move to new, cheaper office space July 11; *GCN* would not close, but rather would undergo restructuring and reorganizing during a yet-to-be-determined period of suspension of publishing; a meeting would be held July 23 to consider proposals for the restructuring process; subscription checks would not be cashed for the time being; and emergency fundraising would be undertaken.

"We have not yet decided on the future of *GCN*," said Laura Pierce, the paper's development director. "But there is one thing we all agree on. We need money and volunteers and we need them fast."

[Community members wishing to offer proposals for restructuring should submit them to *GCN* by July 22.]

Veteran organizer Sue Hyde worked as *GCN*'s news editor from 1984-85. She has been working as a consultant/diagnostician of *GCN*'s financial problems over the past 6 weeks.

Charges of racism divide BWMT

MACT/NY and the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention split off from national BWMT; MACT charges racism, national denies, Task Force claims growth

By Carrie Wofford

SAN FRANCISCO—Following years of growth and recent charges of racism on the part of white board members of the National Association of Black and White Men Together, both the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention—formerly a project of the National Association—and the New York Chapter, Men of All Colors Together, have split off from the National Association.

The National Task Force on AIDS Prevention—the only AIDS organization in the country focusing on gay men of color—quietly incorporated as a separate non-profit entity on January 31.

However, it was not until Men of All Colors Together/New York (MACT/NY) published an assessment in its May newsletter that the split was due to racism on the part of white board members at the National Association of Black and White Men Together (NABWMT), that the Task Force announced the split to BWMT chapters nationwide. In that announcement, the Task Force cited its emergence over the past 5 years as a major AIDS service organization and its need for a board of directors that would oversee exclusively the operations of the Task Force.

Task Force spokesperson Steve Feedback called the separation "amiable," and claimed that the New York chapter's version of events is merely "their interpretation." When pressed to discuss the New York chapter's assessment of racism, Feedback said, "In our society, white men can be concerned about a \$1 million budget used for gay men of color." NABWMT's budget is half that of the Task Force, \$50,000.

While those who charge racism agree that the Task Force needed its own board of directors, they call the split, "an inevitability that was expedited by interactions" with the National Association's board, as David Housel, a member of MACT/NY and a liaison to the NABWMT Board, said.

Feedback stressed that conflict with white men over funding is "not endemic to BWMT....The same problems would arise" at any organization dedicating money to gay men of color.

'Directors harangued Task Force'

MACT/NY's May newsletter specifies, "the National Board of Directors... did not come to fully appreciate and support the incredible accomplishments of the Task Force under the diligence and vision of its extremely committed executive director, Reggie Williams.... Under the guise of its mandated fiduciary responsibilities, the NA's Board directorate harangued the Task Force leadership..."

"This dynamic was predominantly forced by white Board members, who never fully came to broaden their sense of what it means for the NA[BWMT] to be truly multicultural." Reggie Williams was unavailable for comment.

Racism charges denied

Robert Williams, the Black co-chair of NABWMT's board of directors said the Task Force had "grown way beyond" NABWMT's structure, with only a couple of HIV positive members on its 12-member Board and with Board meetings occurring only 4 times per year.

Williams said the charges of racism were based on "one board member who asked clarifying questions... and one person who took that back [to New York] and... turn[ed]

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Quote of the week

"I'll be around."

—Archconservative U.S. Representative William Dannemeyer, who was defeated June 2 in the California primary for a 2 year Senate seat vacated by Calif. governor Pete Wilson. Republican John Seymour, who beat Dannemeyer, faces former San Francisco mayor Dianne Feinstein in the November election.

"We always knew the anti-gay policy was wrong. Now we know the financial expense of this inexcusable policy is as staggering as its human cost."

—U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) on the report of the Congressional General Accounting Office that the Pentagon spent \$27 million recruiting and training replacements for the lesbians and gay men discharged in 1990. The military also used tax dollars to discharge an average of 1500 gay men and lesbians each year between 1980 and 1990, and to conduct at least 3,663 investigations for homosexuality over the last five years, according to the report. Women were discharged at a widely disproportionate rate.

"Current efforts are tragically insufficient. President Bush has given no emphasis to AIDS."

—The National Commission on AIDS in its strongest condemnation of the Bush administration's failure to respond to the pandemic, develop a national plan, support health care and address substance abuse. After Bush and health officials ignored the Commission's 1991 report on AIDS, the Commission underwent frustrating meetings June 24 with officials.

Tall Ships benefits called racist

BOSTON—In what some Native and anti-racist lesbian and gay activists view as a replay of the *Miss Saigon* controversy, a number of gay and AIDS-related organizations are planning benefits using the regatta of tall ships sailing into Boston Harbor July 10th as part of the U.S. and Spanish governments' "celebration" of Columbus' 1492 landing in Haiti and the Americas

Fenway Community Health Center is sponsoring a barbecue fundraiser to watch the Tall Ships July 12 and the Mission Hill Hospice will raise money through a 90 minute narrated tour of the tall ships July 13 and a 4 hour cruise and ship-viewing July 14. Ticket prices range from \$22 to \$42.

Around the nation, Native Americans are organizing demonstrations in protest of October's Columbus Day fanfare. In Boston, a group calling itself the 500 Years is Enough! Coalition is using the Tall Ships' visit to educate and organize for demonstrations in the fall. The Coalition announced, "We hold this truth to be self-evident—that murder, theft and rape of people and land is wrong. Such genocide will not be honored.... This legacy... is alive and insidious and at the very root of racism, sexism and economic injustice that places profits over people, and is experienced every day by a majority of people in the U.S. and the throughout the world."

Like recent organizing against Columbus Day celebrations, *Miss Saigon* was already embroiled in protests when Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the New York Lesbian and Gay Community Center decided to have their fundraisers. Responding to pressure from Asian and African-American gay activists, the Center cancelled its benefit. Lambda did not. Lambda's Public Education Coordinator, Mariana Romo-Carmona resigned in protest.

As a keynote speaker at Outwrite 92, the lesbian and gay writers conference in Boston in March, Romo-Carmona addressed Columbus' legacy of imperialism and its connection to lesbian and gay survival: "The media... glorifies... the quincennial as an excuse to justify and rationalize genocide and exploitation.... Detractors are seen as wet blankets, complainers, malcontents, fringe agitators.... As people whose human rights are threatened, it behooves us to support, encourage, and protect in all ways the telling of the truth with the potential to liberate us all.... We cannot buy a little oppression with our discretionary income, we buy all of it."

—Kathryn E. Diaz

AIDS funds denied for Puerto Rico

WASHINGTON—While the annual incidence of AIDS in Puerto Rico is second only to New York, when it comes to AIDS fund-

ing, the island is at the bottom of federal spending priorities. The National Commission on AIDS recently reported that Puerto Rico ranks 55th out of 57 U.S. states and so-called territories in total funding per reported AIDS case.

Puerto Rico is especially shortchanged in Medicaid funding. The Congressionally-imposed cap on federal Medicaid funds is \$79 million for Puerto Rico, but if the island received Medicaid on a par with the 50 states, it would have received \$400 million in federal matching funds.

—Kathryn E. Diaz

Los Angeles ACT UP storms state

LOS ANGELES—Eight members of ACT UP/LA suffered violent arrests June 30 as they and others occupied the lobby of the Reagan State Office Building to protest the state's planned 15 percent cut of the AIDS budget. The cut would result in the loss of \$15 million in federal matching funds.

Several hundred ACT UP members also interrupted the County Board of Supervisors to demand a reinstatement of funds to the County Hospital AIDS ward. ACT UP, led by recently-deceased member Mark Kostopolous (see obituary, page 6), had been successful in forcing the county to provide an AIDS ward. In recent weeks, ward nurses have been quitting due to poor conditions. "We're going to be back every Tuesday until [they] fix this," member Tony Arn warned.

The demonstrations were held in Kostopolous' honor, as was a June 21 blocking of traffic on Santa Monica Blvd. by several hundred activists and a silent presence in the lesbian and gay pride march June 28. "We've [been] push[ing] the envelope a little, which Mark would have liked," Arn said.

—Carrie Wofford

Wilson quits LA AIDS office, Berrill leaves NGLTF

LOS ANGELES—Chastising the city of Los Angeles for failing to commit enough resources to AIDS services, Phill Wilson resigned as the AIDS coordinator for the City of LA as of July 30.

"It has been extremely painful for me knowing the urgency [of AIDS], seeing the urgency and then coming in every day to experience [the city government] environment where they really don't understand the urgency," he told *GCN*. "This job is an impossible job without the resources."

After a seven week vacation, Wilson will return to fighting AIDS at the grassroots level. "I personally can be more effective outside of city government," he said.

Wilson will also continue his work as founder and director of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, which sponsors the annual organizing conference of Black gay men and lesbians.

In other news, Kevin Berrill announced June 11 he was leaving the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) after ten years.

Berrill, 36, began his career at what was then the National Gay Task Force in New York City in 1982 as staff assistant and receptionist.

As founder and director of the NGLTF Anti-Violence Project since its inception in 1982, Berrill developed the gay and lesbian community's national documentation of and response to anti-gay violence. In 1987, Berrill initiated a second NGLTF project, the Campus Project, which helps lesbian, gay and bisexual students and university staff organize against bigotry.

"Kevin has been a brilliant and visionary activist," said Urvashi Vaid, NGLTF's executive director who announced last month that she will leave in November.

A new anthology that Berrill co-edited, *Hate Crimes: Confronting Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men* will be released soon. He will continue to work as a grassroots organizer and trainer, freelancing both on his own and through NGLTF.

In related Boston news, Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders of Massachusetts announced June 30 it had hired a trial attorney from Worcester, Mass., Ms. Jo Ross, to replace Kevin Cathcart as executive director. Cathcart is now executive director of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund in New York.

—Carrie Wofford

Queers hit Clinton

NEW YORK—Several Queer Nation activists heckled presumed Democratic presidential nominee Bill Clinton June 22 during

a Clinton fundraiser. The activists cited Clinton's inaction to overturn his state's anti-gay sodomy law. The law was enacted in 1977 during Clinton's tenure as attorney general.

In other news, several thousand Queer Nation activists marched through Manhattan streets June 20 in a "Queer Power" march protesting violence and police brutality.

In New Jersey, members of Queer Nation zapped U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley (D-N.J.) during town meetings June 27 for his failure to support the federal Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill.

—Carrie Wofford

Boston gears up for AIDS demos

BOSTON—ACT UP will hit the streets next week in the first major demonstrations planned by the group in almost a year.

The group will be protesting Bush's immigration ban on HIV positive visitors, which caused the International AIDS Conference and Harvard University—which was supposed to sponsor this year's conference—to move the Eighth International Conference on AIDS outside of the U.S.

Activists will hold a press conference and rally at Logan Airport July 18, a 24-hour vigil at Hynes Convention Center—where

FOR THE ACTIVIST IN YOU

International

- Stop Nicaragua from instituting an anti-gay law that would render homosexual sex and advocacy totally illegal. Write: Presidente Chamorro, Casa de Gobierno, Managua, Nicaragua; Alfredo Cesar, Presidente, Asamblea nacional Costado Norte, Palacio de Gobierno, Managua, Nicaragua.

- Call your U.S. Rep. to urge support of HR5267 to grant protection to Haitian refugees, terminate visas of those involved in the coup and return Aristide to presidency: (202) 225-3121. Call Kennedy (co-chair of Senate Immigration Subcommittee) to demand leadership: (202) 224-4543. Info: (617) 666-9071.

- Protest the Lithuanian government's crackdown on the Lithuanian AIDS Center's monthly newspaper. Also protest the murders of gay men in jail. Info: Lithuanian Lesbian and Gay Assoc., P.O. Box 2472, 2051 Vilnius-51, Lithuania.

National

- DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION: July 12 gay and lesbian delegates reception, 4-6 p.m., NY Public Library. Info: (202) 628-4160; July 13 ACT UP demonstration. Info: (212) 564-2437; July 14 United for AIDS Action massive rally. Meet at Columbus Circle 1 p.m., march to Times Square for rally 3:30 p.m. Info: (212) 889-1958; July 15, gay, lesbian and bisexual activists town meeting on the presidential election, 7 p.m. NYU Vanderbilt Hall, 40 Washington Sq. South. Info: (202) 332-6483. July 18, Peoples Assembly Counter Convention, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Norman Thomas High School, 33 St. and Park Ave. Info: (212) 777-1246.

- Republican convention demonstrations August 17-22. Info: ACT UP, (816) 753-5930, (713) 864-5106.

- Demand that the CDC expand its AIDS Surveillance Definition to include the infections women and injection drug users get. Urge your U.S. Rep. or Senator to pressure the CDC: House: (202) 225-3121, Washington, D.C. 20515; Senate: (202) 224-3121, Washington, D.C. 20510.

- Boycott Delta Airlines for wrongful questioning and discrimination of flight attendants on the basis of age, sex, national origin and marital status. Delta was also the subject of discrimination suits by gay and transsexual employees this past winter.

- Support Brian Coan, a Williams College student and anarchist with the Love and Rage Network who is being harassed by the Feds. Support him as he resists a Grand Jury's attempt to force him to give information on leftist activists through a subpoena served May 8. Coan faces jail for non-cooperation in the witch hunt. Protest letters to: Asst. U.S. Attorney O'Regan, 1550 Main St. Springfield, MA 01103. Info: (212) 925-7966 or (212) 614-6438.

- Urge your congressperson to support the Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill: (House bill HR1430, Senate bill S574). (See address/phone above). Info: NGLTF, (202) 332-6483.

- Urge your U.S. Representative to support the "Military Freedom Act," (bill HR 5208), which would overturn the military's anti-gay ban. (See address/phone above.) Info: NGLTF, (202) 332-6483.

- Call Cracker Barrel's corporate office to protest the firing of queer employees from its restaurants: (615) 444-5533.

- Cost Ross Perot money. Call his hotlines to oppose his homophobia (and whatever else about him you don't like). Fax him your favorite queer flyer. Call: (800) 685-7777 or (800) 826-9540. Fax: (800) 925-1300.

- Counteract the flow of hateful calls from homophobes to Levi Strauss. Show your support for Levi Strauss' announcement that it will stop donations to the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) because of the BSA's discrimination against lesbians and gays. Buy some Levi's or call them at (800) 872-5384. Info: electronic mail: Gattis@Hulaw1.harvard.edu.

New England

- Community meeting on the future of *GCN*, July 23, 6:30 p.m., Boston City Hall, Piemonte Room. Info: (617) 426-4469.

- Protest Bush's immigration ban on HIV positive people. July 18 Press conference, Logan Airport; July 18, 24 hour vigil at Hynes Convention Center; July 19 march from Hynes to Government center. Info: (617) 49ACT UP.

- Learn abortion skills to counteract the shortage of abortion providers, July 15, 7-9 p.m., Boston Women's Health Book Collective, 240 A Elm St., Somerville. Info: (617) 254-6940.

- Urge the Cambridge City Council to approve domestic partnership at a hearing July 22, 6 p.m. Info: (617) 661-6121.

- Support U.S. political prisoners, meeting and showing of "Resistance Conspiracy" video, July 20, 7:30 p.m., Cambridge Women's Center.

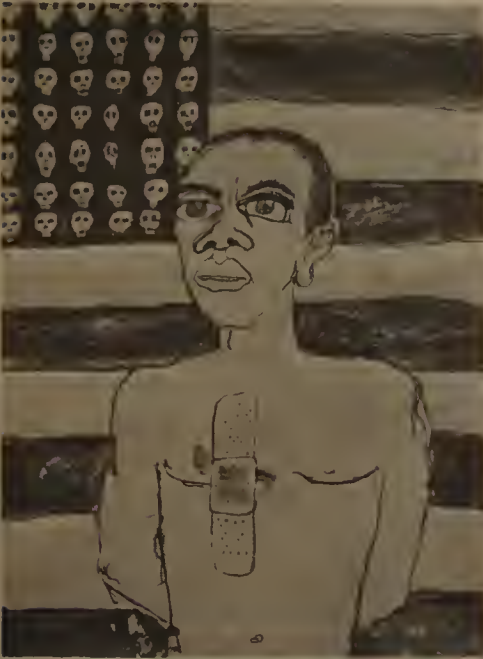
- Join the picket line outside Amsterdam's Restaurant at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston (Arlington St. T stop) every day noon to 9 p.m. People of color earn on average \$1.26 less than white workers; 87% of the hours in the front of the restaurant are worked by whites only; 98% of the workforce is under 30 years old; of 53 employees, only one is a woman of color; all chefs, bartenders, doormen are men; 42% of workers are paid less than \$3/hour with no health insurance. Meanwhile, the owner is filthy rich. Demand diversity, equality and economic justice. Phone zap the Amsterdam/Arlington Management Co.: (617) 426-1111. Info: 617-427-8192.

- Call your Rep. and Sen. immediately as well as House Ways and Means Chair Finneran (617-722-2990) and Senate Chair McGovern (617-722-1481) to urge them to include in the final budget the Senate proposal for the AFDC account, #4403-2000 and the Senate's rejection of House budget section 51 to create a clothing voucher system. Info: Coalition for Basic Human Needs (617) 497-0126; Mass. Law Reform, Steve Savner or Richard Cauchi, (617) 742-9250.

—Carrie Wofford

Let us condemn the real violence!

The last in a series of news analyses on the acquittal of white police who beat Rodney King and the response in LA



Watts II NEWS ANALYSIS

By Phill Wilson

LOS ANGELES—On April 29, 1992 12 predominantly white jurors in Simi Valley, Calif. acquitted four Los Angeles Police officers in the beating of Black motorist Rodney King. Following the verdict the City of Los Angeles experienced three days of the worst urban uprising in the history of the United States. Almost immediately the press lost sight of why people responded with such violence.

There were nearly 200 of us as we gathered at the steps of the Simi Valley Court House on May 5. Led by Black Lesbians and Gay Men, we were Black and White and people of all colors. We were Gay, Straight and Bisexual. We were women, men and transsexuals. The oldest among us was in his sixties. The youngest had to be carried by his mother.

We had all seen the Rodney King video tape. We had all heard the verdict. We also had seen the fires, smelled the smoke, and felt the rage. Our purpose was to focus on the real issues.

As a Black man, I remember the struggle of Black men and women in the South during the '50s who were beaten on the steps of court houses when they tried to register to vote. Today, we have a crisis that affects all of our communities, not just African Americans, not just Gay men and Lesbians, but every one of us who has ever come to the bar of justice and found Justice denied.

We must not get swept up in the emotional to-mato of reaction to April's urban unrest. We must not be fooled into believing what happened in Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, Washington, D.C. and Atlanta was entirely the result of the Simi Valley verdict. The police, the politicians and the media were quick to condemn the violence they call looting. If we are to condemn violence, we must be careful not to define it too narrowly.

Twelve predominantly white jurors delivering a message to Black people all over America that they do not have a right to justice is judicial violence. Let us condemn the violence.

Four Los Angeles policemen beating Rodney King and 20 other officers watching is police violence. Let us condemn the violence.

A Los Angeles judge giving probation for the killing of Latasha Harlins is human violence. Let us condemn the violence.

The crimes of Michael Milken, Neil Bush, Charles Keating and the entire Savings and Loan scandal is economic violence. Let us condemn the violence.

The Reagan/Bush administrations' 12-year attack on urban cities through their neglect is an act of violence. Let us condemn the violence.

Letting people who are living with HIV disease and AIDS languish without proper medical treatment or access to health-preserving drugs is an act of violence. Let us condemn the violence.

Letting the civil rights of gay men and lesbians remain unprotected, subjecting them to the brutality of a life without the legal protections that non-gays can take for granted is an act of violence. Let us condemn the violence.

Let us condemn the violence.

But most of all, the politics of hate and cynicism manifested in Willie Horton, Clarence Thomas, David Duke and Pat Buchanan, and waged against all disenfranchised people, telling them that they just don't count, is an act of violence. Let us condemn the violence. Let us condemn ALL the violence.

In Los Angeles we have worked together to sweep away the debris of the fires. All of us were affected by the firestorm that burned through our city. Everyone is talking about "Rebuild L.A." How can we begin to rebuild Los Angeles, or any other city devastated by over a decade of neglect, without addressing the problems that caused the destruction in the first place? How can we even think that there is a new day when programs touted to bring about change are called "Weed and Seed?" It is disgusting that our government would characterize whole sections of our communities as weeds. It is devastating that we would not protest the characterization.

The "riots" were not the problem. The "riots" were just the latest symptoms of a critically ill society. If we can use AIDS/HIV disease as a metaphor, the riots represent the eighth bout of PCP when you have six T-cells and a blood gas of 16. If you don't go to the hospital today, you won't be alive tomorrow. The "riots" were the opportunistic infections. Racism is the disease.

Andrew Hacker, the author of *Two Nations: Black and White, Separate, Hostile, Unequal*, writes, "...they [whites] are also urged to believe that any advances Blacks may make will be at their expense. Competition and whites' fear of failure help to explain the resistance to ensuring opportunities for Black Americans, let alone more equitable outcomes. Hence the presence in the United States of more violent crimes, more of its people in prison, more homeless families and individuals, more children created virtually by accident, more fatal addiction and disease, more dirt and disorder. Keeping Black Americans so far behind the starting line means most of the outcomes will be racially foreordained."

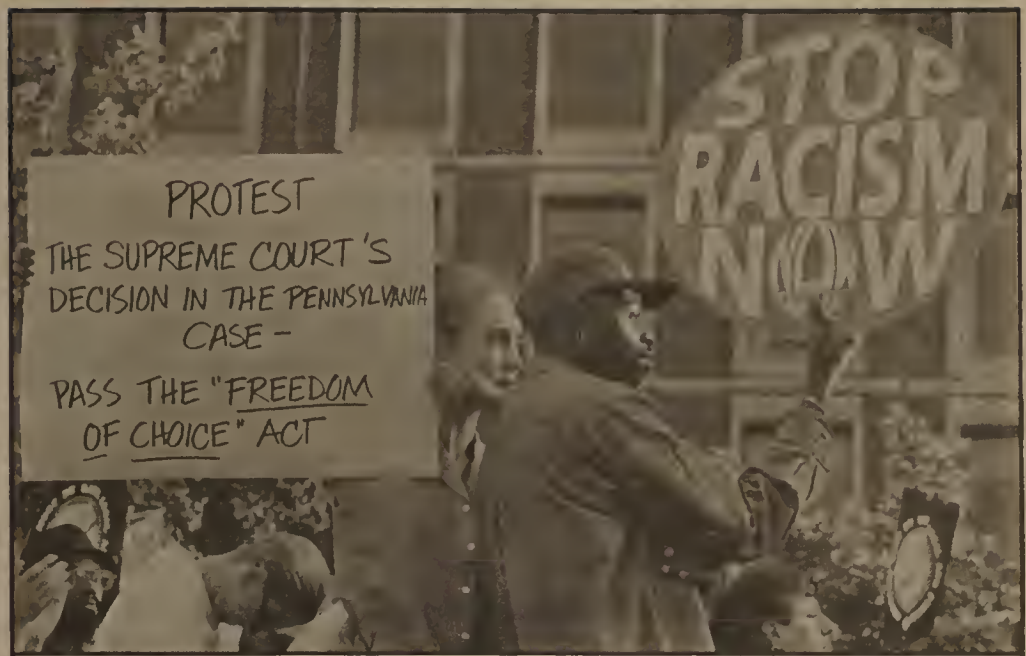
Halford H. Fairchild gives some insights in regard to racism in America as it relates to the Los Angeles uprising in his essay, "Aren't they really us?" when he asks, "But who are they? Are they really hooligans, criminals and thugs who capitalized on an 'opportunity' to go on a rampage of murder, larceny and arson? Are they a disaffected minority who expressed their outrage at the LAPD brutality verdict? Are they an army of malcontents, fed up with a complex of injustices that are routinely heaped on their community? Or are they an expression of something gone awry in the very structure of our society? Are they a symbol of the worst in America? Are they really us?"

I was struck by the media reports that the majority of those arrested in Los Angeles had previous criminal records. It is more helpful to us to know how many of those arrested did not graduate from high school, how many are unemployed, how many can not read, how many have lost friends and relatives to drugs or violence, how many do not have access to health care, how many are homeless or hungry, how many do not believe they have a future, how many feel abandoned by the leaders of our nation.

Let us not rebuild. Let us build! Let us build a community that supports and nurtures all of us. Let us challenge the corruption, neglect and oppression that is at the core of the police department, the judicial system, and the many elements of our government. Let us reject the politics of division and hate. Let us acknowledge the reality of racism and accept the responsibility for fighting it wherever we discover it.

Let us knock down the empty, burned-out buildings and replace them with new and viable structures. Let us knock down the hollow promises of racism and sexism and homophobia and classism by talking with each other and truly listening to each other's pain and rage so that it does not need to erupt in more destructive ways. Let us go and carry the message that we are committed to healing the wounds and building a stronger, better world, one that truly lives up to the promise of its multicultural reality and honors diversity. Let us be ever mindful that there is no they. It's "just us!"

Phill Wilson currently works as the Los Angeles City AIDS Coordinator (see resignation, page 2), and is Founder and Co-Chair of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum and a person living with HIV disease.



BOSTON—Hundreds of pro-choice activists demonstrated here as they did nationwide after the Supreme Court's restriction of abortion rights June 29. In New York, activists were expected to block the Holland Tunnell July 2. Local and national gay and lesbian organizations, including the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Human Rights Campaign Fund, issued statements condemning the Court's interference in the right to control our bodies.

Racism at BWMT?

Continued from page 1

into something negative."

The meeting in question was a performance review of Task Force director (and founder in 1987-88) Reggie Williams conducted by the board. MACT/NY's Housel attended the meeting, which was open to all members.

"It was pretty disrespectful [because board members] don't have a lot of knowledge about what [Williams] is doing day-to-day and [because members] didn't tell him what the process was going to be."

Housel was outraged at the board's exclusion of Williams from the review process and at the board's harsh assessment of Williams' performance, especially given Williams' hard work and the wide respect he was earned.

Specifically, the board called into question the Task Force's financial deficit. Housel called that inappropriate because board members making the assessment came from corporate backgrounds and lacked a sense of how community based organizations juggle cash flow. "[Given that] the Task Force was sustaining the scrutiny of the federal government [for ongoing grants], there probably was no mismanagement of money."

"He's asked to address Congress, they're not, and then [they're] going to be harsh on him?" Housel asked incredulously. "While they'd been talking around the issues of multiculturalism, he'd been doing much more to implement it."

"I thought, 'Really, get over yourselves, folks.'" What bothered Housel in particular was that the men most vocal in the review were white men.

One African American board member, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, agreed, "Frankly, I don't know how Reggie put up with it all this time, and he's really terrific and a hard worker."

But Board co-chair Robert Williams said racism was not a factor. He cited a directive from the board to the Task Force ordering the Task Force to reduce its \$117,000 deficit that Robert Williams, himself, wrote "That [directive] pissed some people off [but it's] a common sense thing," he said.

NY leaves over broader concerns

In early June MACT/NY decided to split off from NABWMT. MACT/NY's Lidell Jackson said Housel's report of the review fit

FYI

- Architects, urban designers, artists and writers wanted for a competition to design housing for people with AIDS. Sponsored by Boston Public Facilities Dept. and Boston Society of Architects. Registration deadline August 15; submissions by October 19. Info: Tim Smith, (617) 635-0331.
- New AIDS trials at Community Research Initiative: fluconazole for prevention of women's yeast infections; cimetidine to increase CD4 cell counts; paramomycin for treating cryptosporidial diarrhea. Info: (617) 424-1524.
- Art Exhibit for National Coming Out Day (Oct. 1-16) at Univ. of Denver. Info: L. Labeth Beers, U. Denver, 2055 E. Evans, Denver, CO 80208; (303) 871-3111. Deadline for submission of slides: July 17, 1992.
- New gay and lesbian alumni group for Whitman College. Info: Stuart Watson, (206) 328-5483; 1813 19th Ave., #203, Seattle, WA 98122-2861.
- New gay and lesbian group at Xerox. Info: P.O. Box 25382, Rochester, NY 14625.
- Wash., D.C. support group for lesbians with cancer. Info: (301) 949-4095.

Conferences

- ILGA annual conference, July 12-18, Paris.. Info: +32-2-5022471.
- European gay and lesbian youth gathering, July 26-Aug. 2. Info: (69) 455-821.
- Gathering of Gay and Lesbian Ostomates, July 29-Aug. 1, Pittsburgh. Info: 4015 Monticello Street, Richmond, VA 23227; (804) 266-9385.
- Canadian Dignity and Integrity Christian/Catholic gay/lesbian conference, July 31-Aug. 2, Vancouver, B.C. Info: (604) 432-1230.
- National Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists Empowerment Conference, Aug. 13, Washington, D.C. Info: NALGP at 1633 Q Street, NW, Suite 220, Washington, D.C. 20009.
- Women of Polynesia, past and present, sponsored by the International Women's Studies Institute, two-week program, Hawaii, Aug. 2-14. Info: P.O. Box 1067, Palo Alto, CA 94302; (415) 323-2013.

—Carrie Wofford

The last word?

[Note: We received this letter months ago, promptly misplaced it and recently contacted the letter-writer with a request to re-submit it. We're happy to have the opportunity to publish this (last?) comment on the topic of transsexual women being banned from attending the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival.]

Dear GCN:

In response to the latest words of authority from "known" womyn-born-womyn Lisa Vogel and Barbara Price, I'd just like to say I'm sick of all this transsexual bashing. Why are the womyn so afraid of male-to-female transsexuals? It seems to me that feminists (most of whom weren't born that way, I might add) should consider transsexuals our natural allies.

In my eyes, any man who willingly undertakes the emotional and physical trauma of a sex-change operation is a courageous individual who has rejected all the trappings of maleness in our culture, and with them, all that penis-derived power and privilege. What more could you ask of a man?

And, if Vogel and Price and all those other womyn who wrote are so scared of (former) men who now look like women, what do they make of women who look like men? If we're so worried about maleness, shouldn't we be even more afraid of buiches than transsexuals? Or are womyn afraid that all of this gender confusion is itself dangerous? Do they think the desire to live as a different gender is contagious? What would happen if one day they should find themselves wishing to live as men? Why, all their little boxes would suddenly have no walls.

I think it's time we began to celebrate gender diversity as we purport to celebrate racial and ethnic and cultural diversity, and stop trashing transsexuals. Stop blaming the messenger who is telling us that we are who we become, not who we were when we were born. Womyn-born-womyn appear to subscribe to a kind of astrogical nationalism, based on gender purity, that is deadly to the imagination and possibly to our survival as the sexual rebels that all of us queers really are.

P.S. How much body hair is allowed on womyn-born-womyn, or does it not count if you shave?

Sincerely,
Tatiana Schreiber
Jamaica Plain, MA

Where have you been?

Dear GCN:

Those of us in the Boston Coalition for Freedom of Expression who admire John Preston and his work were disappointed by his response to Christopher Wittke's ill-informed leading question, "Do you think freedom of expression activists will ever get over their squeamishness about pornography and make the connections between the attacks on the NEA, Robert Mapplethorpe and Bad Attitude?" (GCN, June 6-19, 1992.)

A major part of the BCFE's agenda is to educate people about those connections. Our organization includes members who unapologetically enjoy pornography and even produce it, and those who find it offensive. But everyone in the BCFE knows that any line drawn between "art" and porn, or so-called "erotica" and porn, is arbitrary, subjective, and morally, legislatively and judicially undefinable. We all agree that porn has First Amendment protection, and defend its right to exist. We have submitted written and/or oral testimony against every antipornography bill filed in Massachusetts in the past two years, including State Rep. Barbara Hildt's H.5194. Nationally we've lobbied against bills like S.1521—a version of the MacKinnon-Dworkin third-party-liability initiative. Locally we've worked to expose the sophistries and lies in anti-porn campaigns from both the left and right. In April we opposed anti-porn crusader Gail Dines in a forum at B.U.; we are currently planning a panel on pornography.

What "freedom of expression activists" did Wittke mean? Those we know include leaders of the National Campaign for Freedom of Expression (our parent organization), the Media Coalition, the American Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Project, the ACLU's Art Censorship Project, Americans for Constitutional Freedom, Action for Children's Television, the National Coalition Against Censorship, Rock Out Censorship, and many others. All take a stand on pornography similar to ours. We're

unaware of anyone seriously fighting censorship who hasn't arrived at a position at least closely approaching First Amendment absolutism. It's simply a matter of thinking through the implications of censorship.

Perhaps John Preston has been spending too much time in Maine; where Mr. Wittke has been spending his time is anybody's guess.

Sincerely,
James D'Entremont, Spokesperson
Bob Chatelle, Steering Committee
Member

Erroneous report

Dear GCN:

I want to correct the erroneous report, in *Gay Community News*, Vol. 19, #37-38, "Activists demand PWA rights on the inside," that the Pastoral Care Services program "has been effectively shut down" at the California Medical Facility at Vacaville, the prison which houses most HIV-positive inmates and all of the very ill ones, and to tell your readers how they might express their support for HIV-positive inmates and compassionate care for the dying.

Trained inmate-volunteers of Pastoral Care Services provide quality companionship and peer counseling to terminally ill inmates. Our goal is that no one dies alone.

For many diagnosed with HIV or terminal cancer, the PCS peer counseling is the only source of information, emotional support, or assistance in addressing issues of death and dying. Seriously ill inmates are removed from familiar housing and isolated in the closed hospital wings, where inmate visiting is not permitted.

Despite ineptitude, incompetence, and hostility on the part of senior prison administrators, the resignation of the Director of HIV services, the absence (due to a serious operation) of the PCS Director, the unwarranted removal of a key inmate staff member and staff cuts, PCS volunteers are continuing to spend hundreds of hours with our ill and dying clients each week.

In addition to PCS concerns, the prison is attempting to solve budget woes by permanently double-celling HIV-positive inmates in cells structurally designed to house one inmate, and moving HIV-positive inmates into units with inadequate circulation and no electrical outlets to power fans—this in a prison where there were at least three heat-related inmate deaths last year.

Double-celling HIV-positive inmates will increase the already high T.B., hepatitis and other diseases among inmates least able to fight off infections.

The demonstration planned for May 4 was held in Sacramento on June 1, in conjunction with a legislative hearing, and we PPWAs (People in Prison With AIDS) appreciate the support from our brothers and sisters in ACT UP.

Concerned citizens can express their support for the continuation of Pastoral Care Services and more humane treatment for HIV-positive inmates at all of California's prisons by addressing their comments to James Gomez, Director, California Department of Corrections, P.O. Box 942883, Sacramento, CA 94283-0001, George Ingle, Warden, California Medical Facility, P.O. Box 2000, Vacaville, CA 95696-2000, or a supportive legislator, John Burton, Assembly Committee on Public Safety, 1201 "O" Street Suite A198, Sacramento, CA 95814-5718.

Yours,
Lawrence A. Wilson
Vacaville, Calif.

Pride Day thanks

Dear GCN:

I would like to thank the gay community for your overwhelming support that we received during the Pride Day Parade. I was one of the people walking with the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Veterans of America. Although I marched with GLBVA, this letter is from me to express my personal gratitude.

It was only a few years ago that I remember reading about the violent reaction a group of lesbian veterans received at a Regional Lesbian Conference. The reaction we received at the parade was just the opposite; I could hardly believe it had only been a few years. The community has grown so much in such a short time. People cheered us on and yelled everything from "right on" to "I'm one, too" as we walked along the route. At that point I thought of how many closeted veterans we have in the community. Words cannot express how it felt to be accepted by the people I love the most. Gay vets may not

have statues or memorials but we had your applause and acknowledgement that we exist and that our issues matter. Our experiences are valid and part of the larger community's.

There is no way to calculate how many gay vets have died, been wounded physically or mentally while serving in peacetime or war. I do know that as a woman it is easier to track down the contributions of women G.I.'s. Women first enlisted during the Civil War by dressing up in men's clothes. Since WWI more than one million women have served in the Armed Forces, of whom 30,000 live in Massachusetts. I believe it was women's participation that helped convince President Wilson to "give" women the vote. After all, the military is a language men understand. The real trail blazers were the WACS and WAVES during WWII. Over 275,000 women served during this period. These women were stationed from this country (in both all white and Black segregated units) to England, France, the Pacific Islands, and Algiers, North Africa. Women worked in many capacities as they did in the civilian sector. They were truck drivers, "repairmen," communications specialists, nurses, clerks, etc. Many saw war from the front row and their stories have yet to be told. How many of these women were bisexual or lesbian? It goes without saying that gay men have served throughout our country's history.

I want to thank the community once again for seeing the difference between military policy as dictated by the Pentagon, and us, the people who have the most to lose—our lives. I'm sure Washington knows the average life-expectancy of a G.I. when war has been declared.

Currently there are two projects going on to recognize women. One is the memorial going up in Arlington Cemetery for all veterans, and the other is to honor those who served in Viet Nam. And May 14 is designated as Women's Veterans' Day in Massachusetts.

I hope in the future our whole history will be told to our children and those gays who will follow us, but first there is a lot of responsibility on us to piece it together. Thanks again, I finally feel welcome in my own house.

Jeanne Martin
Medford, Mass.

Prisoner information

[This is a copy of a letter that is currently being sent to all persons making inquiries to the GCN Prisoner Project.]

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your recent letter. For many reasons, including the present crisis at GCN, the Prisoner Project is currently operating with extremely limited resources. For the time being we are answering all requests for information by sending a resource list, which we hope will help you get what you need.

If you sent us a penpal ad, we ask you to send us your penpal ad again if and when publication of GCN resumes.

We are forwarding all book requests to the Prison Book Project. It takes them about three months to respond to requests, so please be patient.

If you have made a special request for any other specific information which we have not provided, we are very sorry that we are not able to assist you at this time. We hope that this situation is temporary and that we will be able to provide more services for our prison readers again soon.

In Solidarity,
GCN Prisoner Project
Boston, Mass.



CORRECTION

The cover photo on GCN, June 20-July 3, 1992 should have been credited to Marilyn Humphries. GCN regrets the error. Thanks, Marilyn, for the hot girls.

Gay Community News

Gay Community News is produced by a collective dedicated to providing coverage of events and news in the interest of gay and lesbian liberation. The collective consists of a paid staff of ten, a general membership of volunteers, and a board of directors elected by the membership.

Opinions reflected in "editorials" represent the views of the paid staff collective. Signed letters and columns represent the views and opinions of the authors only. We encourage all readers to send us comments, criticism, and information, and to volunteer and become members.

The GCN Collective in alphabetical order by primary title/function

* indicates member of paid staff collective

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The End of GCN?

The paper you hold may be the last **GCN** you ever read. And the people who put it in your hands need your help.

A staff of five produce a newspaper normally produced by a staff twice that size. Today, they face the following:

- There is only money in the bank to pay staff salaries (\$230/week) through July 17.
- The staff is owed \$6,500 in back salaries.
- Health insurance costs \$1,000/month, and the bill must be paid.
- **GCN's** lease expires July 11, and we must move to a new space.

Please join the members of an emergency fundraising committee who are working to raise the money to cover these crucial expenses in the next few weeks.

.....

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RE- ORGANIZE OR DIE

COMMUNITY MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 23, 6:30-9:30 P.M.
PIEMONTE ROOM, BOSTON CITY HALL

Does *GCN* need a gut rehab?
 Should *GCN* suspend publication for several months?
 What aspects of *GCN's* content, organization, and financial management should be revamped?
 Where do we get the money?

At this meeting, we will discuss proposals to restructure *GCN*. We urge the community to submit comprehensive proposals to address *GCN's* current organizational and financial problems. Please submit proposals to the *GCN* staff by Wednesday, July 22. Contact Laura Pierce at 426-4469 if you are writing a proposal.

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Obituaries

David Brebbia

BOSTON—David Brebbia made his final exit on November 23, 1991 at Beth Israel Hospital—his "hotel." He had battled for five years with cancer of the esophagus and HIV infection.

David was a professional horseman, having shown horses at Madison Square Garden at age 16. He was also a University of Massachusetts graduate and a medical research scientist at Harvard University Medical School.

David was an excellent host, gourmet cook, avid gardener and true friend, especially to Joan Hardy and Jay Jones. David made his home with the family he loved and who took care of him. His animals Ande and Amos went ahead to prepare a welcome for him. He was also predeceased by his beloved mother Rosemary.

Gratitude and appreciation are due to the staff of Beth Israel and Fenway Community Health Center—in particular to Amy, Doug, Persis and Dr. Roberts. Private services were held as he requested, including a Mass at Our Lady of Victories. A memorial service is to be held in his Fenway garden.

Contributions may be made to Fenway Garden Society, Astor-Station, Box 38, Boston, MA 02123, or Fenway Community Health Center, 8 Haviland St., Boston, MA 02115, attn: Amy Paul.

David, you brightened our lives. We will miss your beautiful smile, spirit and naughty humor. Love, Ray and Steve Burke.

—Steve Burke

Apologies for the late notice, due to settling problems and finalizing matters.

Eric K. Browning

HARRISBURG, Penn.—Eric Browning, 34, died April 29 of complications from HIV. He was a computer systems analyst in the Bureau of Information Resources Management for the Penn. Department of Environmental Resources.

Born on May 5, 1957, in Everett, Penn., he attended Williamsport Area Community College and was a member of homophiles of Williamsport.

While living in Harrisburg, he was a volunteer for the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard and served as a buddy for the South Central AIDS Assistance Network. A posthumous award for Eric's outstanding service to the American Civil Liberties Union was recently accepted by his family. Surviving are his mother, two sisters and a brother.

Eric was also a member of the Society for Creative Anachronism and affiliated with several science fiction interest groups.

—Richard Parker, Matt Riley

David Martin

NEWTON, Mass.—David E. Martin, a coordinator of the AIDS Action Committee's Buddy Program, died of AIDS-related complications on June 21. He was 30.

For many who volunteered to be a Buddy, their first contact was with this quiet, gentle man. His dry humor, flirtatious smile and ever-so-kind eyes endeared him to everyone and inspired confidence in first-time volunteers who weren't quite sure they were cut out to be Buddies.

David's kindness and patience only served to reassure his new recruits that the road they were about to take was one worth taking. He knew this firsthand, as prior to his own diagnosis he was a volunteer at AIDS Action and served as a Buddy to another person with HIV.

David's contributions to AIDS Action and its Buddies Program were enormous. David, however, was a modest man who would blush at such accolades. He was most comfortable recognizing and affirming the contributions of others, particularly the hundreds of volunteers he helped recruit and train to offer emotional support and companionship for people living with AIDS. During last year alone, David helped match over 300 people living with AIDS with volunteer buddies.

For Nancy Silverman and Steve Rowley, David's dear friends and colleagues in the Buddy Program, there was never a delineation by job title, seniority or workload. They were simply family who worked together.

David was a graduate of Boston University from which he received his degree from the School of Music in 1984. He toured Europe with the American Youth Jazz Band and Chorus, performed with the Green Mountain Guild of Vermont and was a vocalist at the Tanglewood Summer Institute.

When a severe car accident ended David's musical theater career in 1986, he continued to perform as a church soloist. At the time of his death, he was a tenor soloist at the Second Church in Newton.

David is survived by his beloved companion, Robert L. Ingari of Boston and by his extended family members: Carol Woeppel and Ginny Hammel of Scituate, at whose home he died, Billy Cotten of Allston, and Nancy Silverman of Weston.

A memorial service is being planned by his friends for a later date. Arrangements are by J.S. Waterman & Sons and Easiman-Waring Funeral Home of Boston.

—Tom McNaught/AIDS Action Committee

Ronald McClinton

PORTLAND, Maine—K. Ronald McClinton, 47, died June 14 of medical complications caused by AIDS.

After his retirement as Clinical Director of Anaesthesia Services at Duke University Medical Center in North Carolina, he returned to Maine. In 1991, he founded the Malovich Society, an educational and cultural organization for gay men and lesbians in Maine.

He also gave years of service in his membership in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Dr. McClinton was born in Selma, Ala. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1970 and was honorably discharged in 1976.

He is survived by his mother, stepfather, maternal grandmother and brothers and sisters, as well as his faithful feline companion Miss Kitty.

—Conroy-Tully Funeral Home

Mark Kostopoulos

LOS ANGELES—Mark Kostopoulos died of complications from AIDS on Saturday, June 20 at a local hospital. One of the principal founders of ACT UP/LA (the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power/Los Angeles), Mark was most recently active in the battle for universal health care.

As a visionary member of the AIDS activist movement, Mark was a moving force behind the creation of a national network of AIDS activist organizations (the ACT UP network, formerly ACT NOW), and the movement for universal health care, which, he came to believe, would be the only way catastrophic illnesses such as AIDS (as well as all other health problems) could be equitably approached.

In June of 1991, in an effort to create a stronger, grassroots movement for health care reform, Mark helped form the Lesbian and Gay Coalition for Universal Health Care. For two years preceding his death, Mark was a member of the Coordinating Committee of Health Access, a network of California organizations currently working for a state-wide health care system.

On the local level, Mark was involved in ACT UP/LA's on-going campaign to pressure the County of Los Angeles to provide adequate health care for all Angelinos afflicted with HIV/AIDS. He was also a strong supporter of Clinic Defense Alliance (CDA), particularly during its 1990 campaign to defend abortion clinics from the terrorist tactics employed by Operation Rescue. As a member of ACT UP/LA, Mark was arrested nine times for acts of civil disobedience during AIDS protests.

Mark was also a convicted felon, following an arrest for detonating a smoke bomb during an Operation Rescue rally in an Anaheim, Calif., church in March of 1990. During the 20-day house arrest and three-year probation Mark endured following that conviction, he continued to organize and plan ACT UP activities, as well as other civil disobedience actions designed to call attention to the ever-widening AIDS crisis.

Prior to his involvement with ACT UP/LA, for which he called the first organizing meeting in December, 1987, Mark worked in a variety of progressive as well as gay and lesbian causes, including the Revolutionary Socialist League (1976-1983) and the Lavender Left (1979-1986). Mark was also active as a local steward during his ten-year career as an employee of the U.S. Postal System in both New Orleans and Los Angeles.

Mark was born in Augusta, Maine on October 26, 1954. He grew up in Oklahoma and Missouri, attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and completed his undergraduate education at San Francisco State University. Mark is survived by his father, Wallace W. Rexroad of Cape Girardeau, Mo., his mother, Irene Kostas Hale of Exeter, N.H., a sister, Sheera Rexroad of Austin, Texas, a brother, Kris W. Rexroad of San Jose, and a nephew, Warren, also of San Jose. Mark also leaves behind a wealth of friends and progressive political associates throughout the United States who will sorely miss his vision and leadership.

In Mark's memory, over 300 members and supporters of ACT UP/LA marched in a torch-lit procession through West Hollywood on the night following his death that culminated in a bonfire set in the intersection of Santa Monica and San Vicente Boulevards.

A non-religious gathering to remember Mark is planned for Sunday, July 12, at the headquarters of Being Alive at 3626 Sunset Blvd., in Los Angeles, at 6:00 p.m.

Donations in Mark's name can be sent to ACT UP/Los Angeles, P.O. Box 26601, Los Angeles, CA 90026; or the Lesbian and Gay Coalition for Universal Health Care, c/o Being Alive, 3626 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026.

—Kevin Farrell, ACT UP/LA

Newsnotes

Continued from page 2

Writers victories

ANAHEIM, Calif.—After a few years of pressure, lesbian/gay and progressive book publishers won their own "political aisle" at the May 23-26 American Booksellers Association annual trade convention. Lesbian and gay writers called the change important for visibility.

During the convention, Lambda Book Report honored Jewelle Gomez's *Gilda Stories* for best fiction and best sci fi/fantasy, and honored Essex Hemphill's *Brother to Brother* for best anthology. Adrienne Rich was honored for best poetry and was awarded the Bill Whitehead Award for Literary Achievement, previously won by Audre Lorde.

—Carrie Wofford

Musician rapped

PHILADELPHIA—Giovanni Vitacolonna, a buyer at Tower Records in Philadelphia, decided to pull off the shelves the singles of a popular Jamaican rap musician, Shabba Ranks, who was quoted in *Details* magazine in June saying, "If a man is thinking of homosexuality, he's thinking of disease and wrongdoings. In Jamaica, we stone [homosexuals] to death."

He says that Tower Records and the companies that produce and distribute Ranks's records have been supportive of his decision. "I'm not for censorship, but I really don't want to help this man make any money," he said.

—Rachel Timoner



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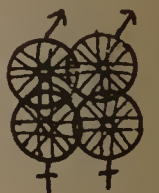
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Preview by Michael Bronski

Twenty years ago, the notion of "gay films" was extremely limited. While mainstream Hollywood product like *The Killing of Sister George* or *The Gay Deceivers* featured gay or lesbian characters, they belonged to the stereotypes of the popular imagination—"queers"—rather than the new, self-defined visions that would come from the emerging gay liberation movement.

But as time and politics moved on, we began to see the emergence of gay film festivals. The first festivals were film series screened on university campuses. Eventually some adventurous community-minded individuals decided that the concept of "gay film festivals" would garner enough popular support to merit both non-profit and for-profit venues. And while these festivals were important places for filmmakers and audiences, the concept of a "gay film festival" had as much to do with changing notions of labeling and marketing as it did with profound cultural change or community commitment.

The notion of a "gay film festival"—and it was not an un-radical one—meant that films were being marketed and shown to a gay audience. This was a big step. Some independent experimental artists were already making films that incorporated unique gay sensibilities—Jack Smith's *Flaming Creatures* and Kenneth Anger's *Scorpio Rising* (both from 1963) were favorites in New York's art houses—but for the most part, movies were not marketed to gay audiences. This changed in 1967 with the release (and quick commercial failure) of Vic Morrow's *Deathwatch*. Based on Jean Genet's prison drama, Morrow's movie (which featured the odd casting of Leonard Nimoy and Paul Mazursky) was a serious attempt to translate the theater piece to the screen.

By aggressively marketing *Deathwatch* to gay men, the distributors were openly acknowledging their presumed audience. And they were not wrong. Genet's name and the homoerotic action of the story were clearly of interest to gay men. What they did not count on, however, was the hostility of the straight reviewers to both the film and its marketing. They also did not understand that this first-time attempt at direct marketing did not have a context in which to function. Although some gay men went to see the film, it was not enough to keep it running. Within a few years, other films—Charles Henri Ford's arty and tedious *Johnny Minotour* and even a semi-mainstream film like *Some of My Best Friends Are...* (both from 1971) were much more successfully marketed to gay audiences. This was due, in large part, to the fact that there was now an above-ground gay press in which this marketing could take place.

As gay (and lesbian) festivals grew, they became places for both old and new films to be shown. Although they often featured wonderful work, they were still generally perceived (by mainstream film distributors as well as some audiences) as marginal venues. Today this is changing.

What makes the gay and lesbian film festival circuit—which includes Boston, San Francisco and New York, as well as other cities—different in 1992, is that they are hosting the premieres of several "important" movies, all of which have commercial runs scheduled for later in the year. Films like Tom Kallin's *Swoon*, Greg Araki's *The Living End* and Christopher Munch's *The Hours and Times* have all received advance praise in the Museum of Modern Art's New Directors Series. As a result, each has been picked up by major distributors and will, in the next few months, play in mainstream movie houses.

Clearly this change in perception is due to the emergence of such viable commercial products as Todd Haynes's *Poison*, Jennie Livingston's *Paris is Burning* and (to a lesser degree) Gus van Sant's *My Own Private Idaho*. After *Poison* and *Paris is Burning* won prizes at the prestigious Sundance Festival there was a general understanding among mainstream distributors that the once-marginal "gay film" just might be a money-maker.

This, of course, is a breakthrough for lesbian and gay film festivals. One might think that it would only be "safe" films that would attain such stature, but this does not seem to be true. *Swoon* is an elegant, if difficult, meditation on the Leopold and Loeb murder case; an analysis of two gay child murderers that attempts to place them in a social context of homophobia and anti-Semitism. *The Living End* is a raucous buddy movie/fraud picture in which two HIV-positive men travel across country; a gay male *Thelma and Louise* without heroic gestures and a lot more sex. *The Hours and Times* is a quirky bio-pic that postulates that John Lennon may have had an affair with Beatles manager Brian Epstein while they were on vacation. None of these ideas would seem to be big box office—at

Projections

Taking a gander at the Eighth Annual Boston Lesbian and Gay Film/Video Festival



Jacqueline Woodson (seated) and Catherine Saalfield, directors of *Among Good Christian Peoples*



From *The Making of Monsters*, Vince (Stewart Arnott), sings 'I Hate Straights' at a tire mountain

least not by last year's standards—but they will soon have a chance to make their way in the real and mostly scary world of feature film economics.

But this mainstream attention is not without a possible downside. While such notice certainly brings a new glamor and (straight) respectability to lesbian and gay festivals, it also tends to privilege and highlight the full-length, unreleased feature film over the other (possibly more interesting) material in the festivals. Given that many filmmakers—especially lesbians who have less access to even the low-end high finances needed to make a feature film—are now working in video or short films, there is always the chance that they will not garner the same attention that the more highly-touted features receive. The Eighth Annual Boston Gay and Lesbian Film/Video Festival—once again under the curatorship of George Mansour—avoids this and other pitfalls.

One of the mainstays of gay and lesbian film festivals has been the revival: the lost movie that died at the box office or fell into obscurity. This year the Boston Festival is showing the very funny *Something for Everyone* from 1971. A sardonic comedy of bi-sexual bad manners (directed by stage genius Hal Prince and starring Angela Lansbury and Michael York) was such a cult film when it first appeared that it took nearly a decade for a cult to actually find it. (Those who delight in discovering truly odd casting should look for actress Despo in the role of a lesbian masseuse.) *Perfectly Normal* is a wonderful comedy by gay director Yves Simoneau that, while not explicitly gay, is certainly gay enough for the festival. Vic Morrow's *Deathwatch* has not been seen since its original release and is a must for anyone interested in either Genet or the history of homosexuality in Hollywood cinema. (*Deathwatch* is being screened with Genet's own *Un Chant d'Amour*.) *Scrubbers*, by

Swedish director/actress Mai Zetterling (she was one of the first women directors to emerge in the 1950s and was last seen playing the grandmother in *The Witches*), is about women in prison. Gus van Sant's first film, *Mala Noche* (which is playing with two van Sant shorts) is the little-seen (and not on video) work that came before *Drugstore Cowboy* and *My Own Private Idaho*.

By far the most interesting revival this year is *Olivia: The Pit of Loneliness*, a 1951 French film by Jacquelin Audry. Like its obvious girl-boarding-school predecessor *Madchen in Uniform*, the film is written and directed by women. It is based on the short novel by Dorothy Strachey (she was Lytton's sister) about her own experiences in a French boarding school. *Olivia* features a character named Laura, based on the young Eleanor Roosevelt (who attended the same school as Strachey). *Olivia* (its subtitle has nothing to do with Radcliffe Hall's novel; it was added onto the American version of the film to get attention) has not been seen in decades.

The Boston Festival is also screening a handful of new first-run feature films that are not headed for wide release. Philip R. Ford's *Vegas in Space* is a very funny, if demented, drag queen science fiction parody: sort of a cross between *Star Trek* and *Zsa Zsa Gabor*'s immortal 1956 vehicle *Queen of Outer Space*. Rosa von Praunheim's *Affengeil* is an affectionate portrait of a spunky elderly actress. *Together Alone* and *Via Appia* are new releases that dramatically deal with AIDS issues. Mart T. Harris's *Nocturne* is about looking for sex and love in New York. *Pepi, Luci and Bom* is Spanish filmmaker Pedro Almodovar's first work (which is having a release in Manhattan). It shows, if nothing else, how much Almodovar's talent has improved since 1980. British filmmaker Ron Peck, who made the influential 1985 film *Nighthawks*, is represented by two films: *Empire State* and *Strip Jack Naked*. Both of

these are Boston premieres and both chart the growth of an important gay male artist.

Gay and lesbian film festivals have always been the main outlets for showcasing short films that have no other venues. What is interesting this year is that many of the male shorts seem to want to be feature-length films when they grow up, while most of the lesbian work is more experimental and provocative. Whether this is because the male filmmakers are actively trying to get contracts for longer feature-length films or if it bespeaks some profound gender-based difference in filmmaking is difficult to say.

Mark Christopher's *The Dead Boys Club* is a sleek short about what happens when a young gay man puts on the dancing shoes of a late disco queen. Tony Leiner's *Time Expired* is about an ex-con who falls in love with his cross-dressing cell-mate. Richard Nobile's *Time Out* is about a man thinking about getting an HIV test and Robert King's *The Disco Years* is about a young boy coming out in 1977. Each of these shorts is interesting and Christopher's has already won several awards, but with their full plots and characterizations they feel like sketches for longer, feature-length movies.

Many of the lesbian shorts fall into two stylistic camps. There are the more experimental works like Cheryl Dunne's autobiographical *She Don't Fade*, Marusia Bociurkiw's odd, punky documentary *Bodies in Trouble*, Aarin Burch's *Spin Cycle* and Cecilia Barriga's *Meeting of Two Queens*. Then there are the shorts that are more traditionally documentary: Catherine Saalfield's *Among Good Christian People*, Madline Muir's *West Coast Crones: A Glimpse into the Lives of Nine Old Lesbians*, Pam Walton's *Out in Suburbia: The Story of Eleven Lesbians*. Much of the experimental work is quite exciting. Dunne's film is honest and visually moving, while Barriga's work—a montage of Garbo and Dietrich clips that makes them into lovers—is breathtaking. The other experimental works by women are interested in transforming everyday reality into something new; they take chances and (while not always successful) attempt to create new realities. Quite a difference from the male films, which are hyper-realistic in both representation and form.

The lesbian documentaries are all interesting and well done. Although, like many documentaries, they have the look and feel of television, the content is certainly not so. This is especially true of Maria Beatty's *Sphinxes Without Secrets*, a look at political women performing artists and *The Sluts and Goddess Video Workshop* (directed by Beatty and Annie Sprinkles), which is a kinky sexual self-help film. Although validating, in somewhat the same way as some of the male fiction films, the presence of so many lesbian experimental film documentaries seems to indicate a desire to transcend and reinterpret women's reality while at the same time simply document it.

...

The role of the gay and lesbian film festival is clearly changing—the presence of *Swoon*, *The Living End* and *The Hours and Times* testifies to that—but it is too soon to see where it may go. It would be a shame if lesbian and gay film festivals became nothing but dumping grounds for queer feature films on their way to larger audiences since the festivals stay groundbreaking and provocative by showing more "marginal" work. And yet, the pattern that creates the "big" queer pictures undoubtedly helps filmmakers get the funding and attention they need to further their careers. Of course, this change is part of the slow but obvious cultural shift in which lesbian and gay topics, artists and culture are becoming more acceptable to the general public.

The flip side of this is that gay and lesbian artists and audiences are also changing. When Fassbinder's *The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant* and *Fox and His Friends* opened in the early 1970s, gay liberationists protested against what was seen as their stereotyped images. Now these films are staples of gay and lesbian cinema. Even 10 years ago, the idea of making a gay film about the Leopold and Loeb murder would have been unthinkable; five years ago it would have been scorned. Now it is not only possible, it's a hit. It has become clear over the years of gay and lesbian liberation that in the complicated cultural dance between art and politics, art sometimes has to lead. Let's hope that art continues to lead and that it is not taken too out-of-step or off course by the seductive music of profit and marketability.

A detailed schedule of the 8th Annual Boston Gay & Lesbian Film/Video Festival appeared in the GCN Pride Issue (June 6-19, 1992). Screenings take place at The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, (617) 267-9300 ext. 306; the Harvard Film Archive in Cambridge, (617) 495-4700; and the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, (617) 266-5152.

WHAT TO CONSIDER BEFORE SELLING POLICIES

While selling a life insurance policy may be a good way to raise needed cash, terminally ill people should talk to a financial planner who specializes in issues related to them. Selling a policy could actually hurt if the seller is on Medicaid or receiving government-subsidized payments for drugs. These and other "means-based" programs have income limitations for recipients. Proceeds from a settlement are likely to boost income well above those limitations. Talk to a lawyer before selling a policy in this case. An estate lawyer may also be worth consulting if you have dependents.

Check with the state insurance companies where viatical settlement companies are based to see if they've received complaints about them.

Viatical settlements should not be a terminally ill person's first choice for raising cash to meet financial difficulties, according to David Petersen, a New York financial planner forced to retire by AIDS. Petersen monitors and writes about the viatical settlement industry.

Petersen said to consider:

- Private loans: They aren't taxable, which makes them more attractive than viatical settlements. Go to a relative or trusted friend first. They may be able to loan you the money in exchange for being named beneficiary on your life insurance policy.

- Check your life insurance policies to see if they have accelerated benefits clauses. It may make sense to use them instead of selling your policy.

- The longer you hold on to a policy, the more it's worth. Don't sell the policy right after a diagnosis of terminal illness unless the money is needed immediately.

- Life insurance coverage that comes from group policies at work may be difficult to sell quickly. Many companies, however, have altered their plans to enable members to sell their policies.

- Shop several viatical settlement companies for the best deal and speed of transaction. Some of them may have cash-flow problems, which only affects a seller if the settlement money cannot be delivered promptly. With several bids, a seller will have back-up companies to go with if the first choice can't deliver.

Selling life insurance for cash

By June R. Herold

William DeFrancesco, 34, found a company that would pay him \$40,500 in exchange for naming the company as the beneficiary of his \$75,000 life insurance policy. Thinking that he had only two years left to live—he has AIDS—DeFrancesco took it. His friends were mortified. "The feeling was 50/50 amongst my friends that it was ghoulish," DeFrancesco said.

That was two years ago and now DeFrancesco is preparing to sell his last policy—face value \$150,00—for about \$110,000 to raise money for his New York City real estate business, a Rocky Mountain vacation for his parents, charitable donations and living expenses, which included \$5,000 monthly medical bills.

DeFrancesco was one of the first terminally ill people in the country to sell his life insurance policy to a burgeoning industry that is alternately referred to as viatical settlement, living benefits or living settlement companies. Since 1989, about two dozen of these companies have sprouted nationwide and have bought more than \$100 million worth of policies.

About 95 percent of viatical settlements come from people with AIDS, with the rest from people who have cancer or other terminal illnesses. The companies pay between 15 and 95 percent of the policy face value, depending on the life expectancy of the insured person. The shorter one has to live, the more money one gets.

People use the proceeds to relieve financial problems associated with catastrophic illnesses, buy gifts for loved ones or to take vacations while alive. "It's nice to be able to give things away," DeFrancesco said. "But I'm going to have to use most of the money to live on until the business can exist on its own."

The nature of the viatical settlement industry, however, has been criticized since its inception for making money from human deaths. And as the numbers of these companies grow—there were about five in 1989 and now about 25—and competition intensifies, the business practices of a few of them have rekindled cries of exploitation and ghoulishness.

"On the surface, they [critics] think you're taking advantage of terminally ill people," said Kit Carson, vice president of perhaps the first viatical settlement company, Living Benefits Inc. of New Mexico. "We're not gleeful when somebody dies. Obviously, we're in it to make money, but we don't put the hounds out on people who live beyond their life expectancy."

Living Benefits has bought a total of about 400 policies since 1989, the average face value for them was \$80,000. In 1991, it bought about 225 policies worth \$25.7 million, Carson said. Viatical settlements are a variation of accelerated benefit clauses or riders on life insurance that companies started offering in the late 1980s. But unlike these clauses, viatical settlements are typically for people who are expected to live for two years or less. The accelerated benefits clauses usually only pay a portion of the policy's face value if the insured person has less than six months to live.

Viatical settlement companies are also not insurance companies. They will buy policies written by most major life insurance companies. Life insurance companies, however, cannot buy policies written by other companies. Their accelerated benefits clauses only apply to people they insure. After buying a policy, viatical settlement companies maintain the policy by paying the premiums. The companies need a death certificate to collect on the policy.

Death checks

The methods some companies use to pursue collection have disturbed some clients and observers. The most reliable way for companies to get death certificates is to keep track of their clients, which may mean calling clients to see if they are still alive—a tactic that is offensive to some people.

"A lot of time the companies don't know they're being intrusive," said John Darragh, a 45-year-old California financial planner forced to retire by AIDS. "But people have to realize the business side of this, and that it's common sense to keep track of clients." Darragh now writes about the viatical settlement industry.

Take the case of Peter, a 29-year-old New England man with AIDS. A two-week bidding war for his policy erupted between a broker in Boston and American Life

Resource (ALR) Corp., of Florida, when he began looking for a buyer last fall.

The broker originally offered Peter \$59,000 for his \$100,000 term life policy, saying it was the most any viatical settlement company would pay. Peter rejected it and turned to ALR. After several offers and counter offers in which the broker said his bid was good for one day only, Peter accepted \$80,000 from ALR. The broker offended him. Since then, Peter claims ALR has called him several times.

"They act very concerned on the phone even though they're waiting for me to kick off," said Peter, who asked that his real name not be used. "I've gotten used to the calls. It makes me feel like I'm on a death watch." He said one of the bidders offered him a \$250 commission for each referral he sends to them.

Steve Simon, president of ALR, however, said his company does not routinely call clients but only when it can't get through to a client's doctor or the doctor hasn't seen the client in several months. He also said offers of commission are morose and that his company doesn't offer them.

"We are in a for-profit business," Simon said. "We feel very strongly that we have found an appropriate mix between compassion and profits."

Said Carson of Living Benefits: "If a person goes beyond six months past his life expectancy, at that point we probably would place a phone call to try to talk to him or a relative to see how the person is doing or if he's died."

Peter resisted the broker's pressure tactics. But not all terminally ill people are strong enough to do that. "I look for equal power and arms-length bargaining," said Scott Knox, a Cincinnati attorney who often deals with AIDS-related issues. "Terminally ill people don't have equal power."

Knox, like so many observers of the industry, initially found these settlements to be ghoulish. He, however, changed his mind after seeing how the money helped people keep their possessions and pay bills. "I've run into many people who can't afford the care they need," he said. "If the deal looks pretty fair, and if I were in their position, I would want that option."

Dignified updates

Calling doctors is one way companies track their clients, who give permission for calls to their doctors. The companies also ask clients to attach a statement to their wills that says to notify the company when the client dies.

Some companies offer financial incentives that motivate the client to contact the company periodically and establish paper trails. Affirmative Lifestyles of San Antonio, Texas, for example, pays a \$400 quarterly bonus to its clients. The money comes from the Client Appreciation Fund, which is supported by a fee that Affirmative Lifestyles charges clients. That fee is five to seven percent of the settlement amount. To get the bonus, clients are notified by mail that the fund intends to make a payment. Clients must send back a notarized letter to the company before a check is cut, said Peggy Wallace, president of Affirmative Lifestyles. "We believe in complete disclosure," said Wallace. "Clients have accepted death, and we tell them we're going to have to track them."

Notification delays can cost the companies dearly. The companies are cash intensive businesses for which cash flow problems are standard, given that substantial sums of money flow out to clients but don't flow back in as fast. "If they live beyond life expectancy, we start to lose money," said one viatical settlement company owner.

The biggest threat to the viatical settlement business isn't not knowing about a client's death; it's the potential of a cure for AIDS. Although a cure is not looming on the horizon, several companies are trying to hedge themselves by attracting more cancer patients.

In fact, cancer was the disease upon which Living Benefits in New Mexico started its business in 1989. But the market changed abruptly for the company. AIDS organizations and gay and lesbian groups spread the word by networking. Since then most of the viatical settlement companies advertise in national gay publications.

Relief

To be sure, these companies have helped many sick people. "It gave me a cushion and some piece of mind for financial security," said Paul, a New York professional who has

HIV-related illnesses and who asked that his full name not be used. "I paid off some old debts and took a couple of vacations."

William DeFrancesco feels the same way. He's enjoyed the money he received. Some of his friends who labeled viatical settlements as ghoulish have also changed their minds.

"It sounds crude, but after six years of living with AIDS, living is about what you can do, not what you can't," he said. "This is happening to me anyway. Why not go out with a bang?"

HERE ARE SOME VIACICAL SETTLEMENT COMPANIES AND CONTACT NUMBERS:

Accelerated Benefits of New York
1-800-666-1232

Access Benefits Corp.
1-800-969-5740

Affirmative Lifestyles, Inc.
1-800-876-2991

Aid for AIDS
1-800-786-7183

American Life Resources Corp.
1-800-633-0407

American National
Investors Corp.
1-800-594-2168

Charterhouse Financial Corp.
1-800-858-8088

Contemporary Life Benefits, Inc.
1-510-932-3200

Independence Life
1-800-235-6411

Insurance Resources Group, Ltd.
1-301-652-9522

Legacy Benefits Corp.
1-800-453-4229

Life Benefits Corp.
1-800-367-1792

Life Benefits Inc.
1-800-969-6000

Life Today
1-800-554-2104

LifeCare Living Benefits
1-619-688-2290

Lifestyle Resources Corp.
1-800-835-2006

Lifetime Options, Inc.
1-800-999-5419

Living Benefits, Inc.
1-800-458-8790

Medical Escrow Society
1-800-422-1314

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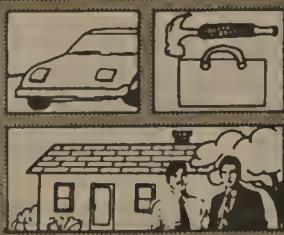
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PERSONALS

GCN REPLY BOXES

Replies to GCN Boxes should be addressed to GCN Box#, Gay Community News, 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116. This applies to GCN Boxes only, not to P.O. Boxes. Mail may be addressed to GCN boxes for five weeks after the issue in which it appears. Check carefully to be sure you have the correct box number!

ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES

1-900-740-6600

Private mailboxes \$1.39

WOULD-BE GM PORN STARS

Boston-based video voyeur is ready when you are. If you wanna go solo or do it with friends, I've got the camcorder to capture your performance. We each keep a copy. GCN Box 358 (48)

POLITICAL SLUT WANTS BUTCHES

Gorgeous fat femme dyke looking to date butches and FTMs whose politics are as radical as their sexuality. Am sober, smoke-free, animal-loving, prefer same. Do you strap on? Do you exist? Do you dare? (20.4)

GWM

42, brown hair/eyes, 5'7", 150, good looking, passionate, sincere, caring, out-going seeks same

for correspondence/possible relationship. T.S. gets special attention. Joseph Hosna, P.O. Box 900, Jefferson City, MO 65102 (20.4)

YOU CAN'T HAVE ME

... but my cummy sweat stiff shorts won't let you down. \$12 to F.E.G. 1242 Columbia Rd., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009 (20.4)

Nashua-area bisexual man seeks playmates out this way. Bear spirit, 6'3", 230, 38 years, healthy, active. Into travel, gardening, back-packing, sea kayaking, drumming, Dead, nakedness, incense, dancing. Boston's fun, but prefer rural adventures. (20.4)

SPREAD WORD. NEED:

Female mechanic for new research company; Helper for Mexican depression clinic; Buyer for Wayne Newton's old home \$250K (free info), free rooms for sitters and renovators; Correspondence only! SASE for reply. Gregory Chartz, 2326 N. Dayton St., Phoenix, AZ 85006 (48)

GWF, 28, cute androgynous. Shy, yet playful, creative. Seeking companionship, fun, a feminine woman., humorous, intelligent, non smoking. P.O. Box 44-99, W. Somerville, MA 02144. (20.4)

Teacher educator/parent of gay child seeks to interview G/L/Bi teachers, K-12 for project on homophobia in schools. Totally confidential. Rita Kissen, 222B Bailey, USM, Gorham, ME 04038 (207) 780-5376. (20.4)

GWM, handsome, 31 years old seeks quality friendship, possible relationship. Warm-hearted, sensitive and serious-minded individual. Hobbies include photography, outdoors and writing. Parole, Jan. of '93. George Cahoon W-46365, P.O. Box 466, Gardner, MA 01440 (20.4)

LIVE IN FLORIDA FREE

Looking for young (18-30) for travel companion.

Share my large spa home in Florida both athletic types and feminine boys welcome. Don, (904) 489-6885 (20.4)

I WOULDN'T LIE TO YOU BABY, IT'S MAINLY A PHYSICAL THING

Gal, 31, big, strong and sultry, eclectic tastes, diverse interests seeking confident woman not afraid to play, match wits, a and take chances. I'm looking for a woman who knows herself and what she wants. Seeking playmate, but open to developing a connection. GCN Box 631 (20.2) Rhode Island Dyke - leftish, moonwatching Baby Boomer, adrift in a sea of personals - Throw me a line I can swallow! P.O. Box 40203, Providence, RI 02904 (44)

Are you too sexy for these ads?

Why not write your own and prove it? \$10 buys you 10 weeks to see if anyone else thinks so. For a limited time, your personal can appear five times (ten weeks) for only \$10. See form on this page for details.

KINKY ORAL STUFF

WM 27 will put my tongue anywhere! Especially armpits, feet, other sweaty parts. Prefer smooth-chested 18-26. Suite 424, 304 Newbury St. Boston, MA 02115 (42)

LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX

Dyke, 28, more boyish than butch, currently looking to fuck in a big way. I want an aggressive woman (women?) who will take charge sometimes, and lay back others. Can you kiss? I mean, really kiss? Looking for a woman with good head and not afraid to use it. Progressive politics and creative experimentation a plus. Let's not just talk. GCN Box 286 (20.2)

SOUTHERN TEXAS

GWM, 23, 6'1", 190 lbs. New from CA wants to meet friends and more. You 18-28+. Will travel. Send photo Jeff, P.O. Box 1641, Kingsville, TX 78364-1641 (20.2)

HOT MEN ARE WAITING, WILLING AND ABLE!

Tired of striking out at the bar game? Join R.M.C. today and choose the man you'll meet tonight! Call us today for personalized service. (617) 848-0027 (20.1)

GWF SEEKS MATE

GWF, 38, Professionally employed seeks the right woman. Likes music, movies, is romantic. Wants a monogamous relationship. I'm ready. Let's see if it works. GCN Box F38 (44)

BIRTHDAY GIFT

Wanted: Inspiring woman for my good friend, 39, who is warm, creative, emotionally honest; artist and therapist. Intelligent, tells good jokes, looks Wow! and more 861-8426 (20.1)

YOUR EMOTIONAL RESCUE

I'm looking for someone who wants to share thoughts, feelings, desire and friendship. I also want to grow and learn new things. I'm doing time for a crime I didn't commit and I could use a long-term mental and emotional exchange. My skin is black, but color me lonely: Larry Favors, #204-687, Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699-0001

BOYFRIENDS WANTED

Handsome funny affectionate GWM, 30s seeks easy-going, friendly, sober boyfriend 20s. Me: active, productive, successful, integrity, spiritual principles. You: leftist, intellectual, capable student/artist. GCN Box 306 (49)

SHARE PARENTING

Living on the outer Cape, I, a gay male, would like to have a child and possibly share the parenting of that child with a lesbian. Write and we can explore the possibilities. P.O. Box 918, Provincetown, MA 02657 (48)

GM ARTIST 55

Needs honest friend to trust and inspire. GCN Box 551 (49)

Vermont Bear, tall, beard. Sane but kinky, short hair, very hairy, cut offs, work boots, home video exchange. Day, Box 3086, Burlington, VT. 0540 (46)

ARE YOU TIRED OF PEOPLE PISSING ALL OVER YOU?

I'm not. GWM looking for men interested in summer water sports. Older, hairier preferred though age, race really unimportant. Please have imagination. GCN Box RU6 (20.1)

I WANT YOUR BODY

WF, 31, Catholic-turned Pagan, semi-vegetarian outside Boston seeks companion. Day trips to P'town, Salem, etc. I'll pay for dinner if you'll be dessert. No cigs, drugs. GCN Box 376. SIGH. I bet you're really relieved to have me finally off of your back, so to speak. GCN Box L

FOR SEX ONLY

GWF, professional, mid-thirties has spring fever. I have a lover, just want to have more sex. Any women interested in wild nights or afternoon delight? Race, age unimportant. Serious replies only. GCN Box L22 (46)

Bisexual single mom needs summer vacation. Looking for bisexual/lesbian for playtime and dates. I am 37, attractive, artistic, fit. Drug/chem-free. All races welcomed. (20.1)

WANT TO GET FUCKED UP...

...the ass, or down the throat? Me too. GWM, bearded, Looking to get really hot this summer. Let me bring my 12-pack of Trojans to your room, your basement, your car, your backyard, you get the idea.... GCN Box K12 (20.1)

DATES OR SEX

What about dates for sex? Is your calendar too full of things that are too serious. Mine is. Let me pencil you in for something fun. Slightly stressed-out LF, late twenties, seeks women for occasional diversions. Age, race unimportant. GCN Box 676 (46)

Attractive, trim, easy-going, healthy HIV+ GWM into erotic massage and more. Lay back, enjoy! Also alternative therapies, audio, travel. (404) 876-9529, P.O. Box 53142, Atlanta, GA. 30355. (46)

Greek male, 36, moving back to New England. Write to me if you want it. Ted Spapas, Box 454, Boonville, MO 65233. (20.3)

ATTENTION LESBIANS

For a list of names and addresses of other lesbians in your area that are very anxious to meet you, send \$5 and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 66119, Dept 5LA, Los Angeles, CA 90066.

Radio/Cable TV for and about us. Send \$2 (applied to order) for catalog to Box 11212, Washington, DC 20008 (48)

GWM, 30, sexy, blonde, slim, cute buns seeks well-hung studs for fun times. Love to deep-throat. P.O. Box 656, Cambridge, MA 02140.

CHILD CARE

Lesbian couple seeking live-in child care help for infant girl in Cambridge. Experience with children, non-smoker, drivers' license required. Call 354-5447

Lesbian moms need child care for two infants, Sept-June, 8:30-5:00, Cambridge. Call 868-4251 or 492-1091, leave message. (40)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FISHER PRICE PIXEL CAMERAS

Do you have one? Has the novelty worn off? I hope so because I really need one. Write to GCN Box Pix, name your price. (38)

DYKE DIVERS

Looking for lesbian scuba diving buddies. New England area lesbian SCUBA diving group seeks new members. For info, (617) 282-4992 (46)

Key youth issues for gay men and lesbians detailed in audiotapes collected by veteran reporter John Zeh. Send \$2 (applied to order) for catalog to Box 11212, Washington, DC 20008 (48)

Reporter seeks examples of businesses complying with or violating Americans with Disabilities Act. Write Capital Coverage by John Zeh. Box 11212, Washington, DC 20008 (48)

WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE'S TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ORGANIZERS

August 7-16, 1992. Cost: \$275-\$500, sliding scale. Program held in western Massachusetts. To receive a brochure and application, contact WRL, 339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012. Apply by June 1.

PWAC MOTHERS SUPPORT GROUP

Women who have adult children with AIDS, or have lost an adult child to AIDS starting a new service of the People With AIDS Coalition Hotline. Mothers are available to talk Mon, Wed, Fri, 2-6pm. 1-800-828-3280. (20.10)

BATTERED LESBIANS

Free Boston-area and North Shore support groups for women currently or formerly experiencing physical, emotional, sexual or economic abuse by a woman partner. Call the Network for Battered Lesbians at 617-424-8611 with a safe number and times to reach you. (Voice answering machine; TTY response available.) Call for accessibility and childcare information.

GAY, LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL YOUTH

For a list of newsletters, pen pal programs, talk-lines, and other resources, send a self-addressed stamped envelope along with a note requesting the National Resources List to the Youth Outreach Program, 1213 N. Highland Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038. This list is available free to anyone 23 or under.

HELP WANTED

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

Duties: General administration and staff management; fundraising - emphasis on major donor and membership development; finance; policy and program; public speaking. Qualifications: 3-5 years public non-profit administrative experience; demonstrated fundraising/management/media skills; sophisticated understanding of gay/lesbian/diversity/AIDS issues. Salary competitive. Resume to NGLTF ED Search, 1734 14th St., NW, WWA, DC 20009 by July 3. Women, POCs encouraged to apply, EEO.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

American Friends Service, a Quaker-based organization which works for justice and peace, seeks

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

10 for 10

IF YOU PLACE A PERSONAL IN GCN BETWEEN NOW AND JULY 1ST, PAY JUST \$10 AND YOUR AD WILL APPEAR EVERY OTHER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS.*

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20-30 Consecutive weeks. Deduct 15% \$_____
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Address _____
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Deadline for Classifieds is Friday at 3 p.m. for the next Friday's edition. All ads must be prepaid. All display ads must be camera ready unless alternative plans have been made. No ads accepted over the telephone. Please clip and return this ad form with payment to GCN Classifieds, 62 Berkley St., Boston, MA, 02116. Visa/MasterCard accepted.

CATEGORY

- 10 FOR 10
- PERSONALS
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- HELP WANTED
- HOUSING WANTED
- ROOMMATE WANTED
- VOLUNTEERS
- APARTMENTS
- VACATIONS
- MASSAGE
- FOR SALE
- PUBLICATIONS
- ORGANIZATIONS
- SERVICES
- MOVERS
- OTHER _____

Classifieds

Executive Director for its New England Regional Office. Requires demonstrated leadership and management experience; understanding of local national and international issues; commitment to nonviolence and the eradication of racism and all other forms of human oppression. Send letter of interest and resume by 7/17/92 to Search Committee, AFSC, 2161 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02140. AFSC is an AA/EO employer. People of color; women; gay, lesbian and bisexual people; people with disabilities; and ex-prisoners are encouraged to apply. Applicants will be considered on the basis of qualifications. (48)

PERSONAL SECRETARY

Professional author with AIDS seeks a personal secretary to work 2-4 hours per week in the day to do clerical duties such as typing, errands, research at library, mailing, copying, etc. If interested, please call 522-1585. Excellent opportunity for a beginning writer. (48)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Small (750K), activist, non-profit AIDS buyers' club seeking creative individual to manage all aspects of operation: strategy planning, program development, public policy, finance, development, P.R., personnel, operations. Strong management and interpersonal skills required. Activist or non-profit background helpful. \$35-\$45K, commensurate with experience. Women, HIV+, and people of color encouraged. Cover letter, resume, salary history (by 7/17) to: Search, PWA Health Group, 150 W. 26th St., #201, N.Y.C., 10001. EOE (48)

MANAGEMENT NON-PROFIT

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, a national lesbian/gay rights legal organization, seeks Deputy Director to oversee administration, finance and personnel. Management, fiscal planning, demonstrated commitment to Lambda's work necessary; accounting experience preferred. Salary \$50,000+. Resume by July 10 to Kevin Cathcart, Lambda, 666 Broadway, NY, NY 10012-2317. Women and people of color encouraged to apply. (46)

Des Moines, IA - Quaker peace and justice organization seeking senior-level community organizer. Candidate must be experienced in organizing, program development, fundraising, budget management and supervision. Affirmative action employer. Candidates from any of these AA groups encouraged to apply: people of color, women, lesbians/gays/bisexuals and persons with disabilities. Write/call for job description and application form. American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), 4211 Grand Ave. Des Moines, IA 50312. Phone (515) 274-4851

\$800 weekly Possible! Working at home! 37 different opportunities. Rush \$1 and self-addressed stamped envelope to: Harvey Council, H-125 Blake St., Hyde Park, MA 02136

DOCTOR WANTED

LOOKING FOR A DOCTOR

Male doctor wanted to accept blind GWM, 44, with cerebral palsy as patient. I am looking for a personal physician, have Medicare, Medicaid. 262-6632. (20.1)

VOLUNTEERS

GCN NEEDS YOUR HELP.

GCN began as a volunteer run organization, and we still depend heavily on volunteers. In fact, our survival now depends on more people-power! To find out how you can get involved, call 426-4469 and ask for a volunteer information package. This will give you a better sense of how our office works and the type of help we need. Below are some critical ways to get involved right away.

MARGARET FULLER

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE, INC.

Spend a few hours each week helping a parent who needs emotional support. Training and reimbursement provided. Call 547-2371

PLAN A BENEFIT

Enter the thrilling world of events planning. Gain valuable experience while mobilizing the community to support GCN.

PURSUE PROOFREADING

GCN always needs diligent readers to make sure no typos make their way into publication. Are you good at catching errors? This job might provide unique satisfaction for you. Proofing happens on Weds. and Thurs. night every other week. Call for details.

FOR SALE

Published Proceedings of New Jewish Agenda's "Carrying It On: A National Conference Organizing Against Anti-Semitism and Racism for Jewish Activists and College Students, November 1991. Panels: Points of Conflict; Jewish Identity/Jewish Strength; Racism - Views from Different Communities; College Campuses; Organizing for Action. Keynotes by Julian Bond and Grace Paley. \$12 each, 5 copies \$55, 10 copies \$100 (includes p/h). Checks payable to BRIDGES Magazine, P.O. Box 18437, Seattle WA 98118, (206) 721-5008 (20.7)

Panel: Points of Conflict; Jewish Identity/Jewish Strength; Racism - Views

HYDE PARK BEST

2-lux. condos for sale. Open house Thurs. & Fri. 4-8pm, Sat & Sun. 1-5pm, 1 BM \$59,000

(720sf), \$410/mo. 2-BM \$69,900 (950sf) \$495/mo. 6% financing & 5% down (MHFA). Take Hyde Park Ave to Getty Station then take Collins into 116-120 Bradlee St. 522-4899 anytime.

Hyde Park: Completely renovated 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, Colonial. New kitchen, electrical, roof and outside paint. Hdwd floors throughout. 2nd floor deck overlooks tree-tops. Immaculate, nice location. (617) 361-6352. \$160,000 (48)

APARTMENTS

JP QUIET 2-3 BDRM APT

Near T, no dogs. \$850+, LF owned. 8/15 or 9/1. 524-0921. (20.2)

LOWER MILLS AREA

Two bedrooms, modern kitchen and bath. Quiet and quiet location. \$675 + utils. Call, 296-2156 or 298-1188 (46)

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Dorchester - Charming 2 bdrm, kitchen, din., liv., porch, large yard. \$700 + util. Avail. July 15. Call 969-0767. (48)

HOUSING WANTED

QUIET HOME NEEDED

LF, 38, grad student seeks quiet, sunny, safe 2-bdrm apt. with LF 30+; or one bdrm apt. Long term in Waltham, Watertown, Cambridge areas; near T. No smoke/drugs. 876-6696

ROOMMATES

Try GCN's Guaranteed Roommate Ad

All roommate and housemate ads that are prepaid for two weeks will run until you find a roommate.

Ads are *not* automatically renewed. You must call in every additional week you want the ad to run. Phone calls for renewals will be accepted until Friday at 3 pm. 426-4469.

JP - 3 MIN. TO ARBORETUM

LF 41 seeks friendly, independent roommate for sunny JP apt. 3rd floor, porch, wash mach. Sorry, no pets. \$275+. Open to temporary housemate or part-time arrangement for out-of-town commuter. 522-2240. (32)

JAMAICA PLAIN

LF seeks LF/BiF to share spacious, sunny 2BR near Arboretum, Pond and T. LR, DR, Eat-in-kitchen, extra guest rm/study, 2 porches, lots of light. \$350+, Available now. 522-2558 (42)

DORCHESTER LOWER MILLS

LF seeks LF25+ yrs to share charming 1 family, quiet, racially mixed, safe neighborhood. harmonious, nurturing environment. Splendid 2nd floor yours w/ porch extending into trees and large windowed bedroom. W/D, DW, fireplace, hdwd flrs, VCR, cable. Tin ceiling in kitchen, micro oven. Yard, off-street parking. Close to S.E. x-way. Bus/walk to red line. Pet/kids okay. \$400 inc. utils. Available June 1st. 296-2411. (20.3)

TWO DYKES

seek L or BiF. Medford, near T and Tufts. Newly renovated, hardwood floors, porch, parking. \$267+. No drugs/alc. Smoke and pets, okay. 623-2151. (48)

MARVELOUS MAYNARD

seek 30+ LF nonsmoker to share small 3-bedroom house. Large yard. No dogs. 45 min. to Boston. \$400+. (508) 897-3955 (48)

DORCHESTER

GM seeks roommate to share 2-bedroom apt. 7 min. to Red Line, near Ashmont. Nonsmoker, utils not included. W/D. \$350, call Leroy, 288-6133. (48)

JAMAICA PLAIN

2 LFs seek 3rd, 26+, for beautiful, spacious 3-bedroom, no smoke, near T, must like furry pets. 522-9351. \$240+. (48)

SOMERVILLE

Roommate wanted, 25+, F, to share 2Br, 6 rm apt. near Davis Sq. Hardwood floors, beam ceilings, W/D, on street parking. No cats or dogs. Have rabbit. Available 8/1. \$350+. 629-5341.

SUNNY JP APT - AVAILABLE AUG.1

2LFs, 29& 30 seek LF. W/D, shared study, friendly neighborhood, near T. \$325/including heat. No smokers, drugs, min alcohol, no more pets. 522-0405

Apt. for rent in Cambridge. 2 bdrms, living room, new eat-in kitchen, new bath, sunny, private deck/porch overlooking gardens, 2nd flr apt., in gay 3-fam. house near Harvard Sq., new wood & tile flrs, move-in condition. Located in quiet tree-lined street near Chas River, Mass. Pike, Memorial Dr. Protected parking in front of building. Avail 7/1, \$700/mo. +util. Call Ed, 661-8416, until 10pm only (20.2)

Northampton. Commuting to western Mass. and

need part-time housing? I'm looking for part-time female roommate for quiet home starting in the Fall. Near 5 colleges. Rent negotiable depending on number days/week. (413) 584-2141 (20.2)

2 LFs, (1 cat) seek one other to share apt. on Cambridge/Somerville line. No smoke, no drugs, no more pets, no alcohol. Avail July 1 - poss. sooner. \$216.67/mo. + utils. Please call 776-0315 (20.2)

Trees, view, breezes, sundeck, skylights, offstreet parking. Quiet neighborhood near subway, expressway, beach. Drugfree women and gay house. Roomy studio \$515, including everything. 436-2583

2M seek 3rd person to share cozy 3BR apt. in Davis Sq. Somerville. 3 min. walk to T. Looking for quiet nonsmkr. \$317+. Al, 536-6503 or 623-2897. Available now.

Roslindale - 2 apt.s very near T and Square \$525, less \$30 on time payment. Refrigerator, tile bath, owner-occupied, washer, sundeck, nice yard. 325-7430.

Jamaica Plain, 2Bdrm, 51/2 rm apt. w/porches, very close to Orange and Green lines. \$530 plus heat. Ref. required, 524-4028

JP NEAR ABORETUM

2 LFs seek 3rd. Spacious apt. near T, pkg, w/d, share food, smoke-free, no more pets. \$308+util. July 1st. 524-6839

LAUGHTER AND POPCORN

Openings for 2 LFs in ecofeminist semi-coop near Davis Sq. Porches, yard, w/d. Smoke, drug and pet-free. Min. alc. Call 628-0878, 623-0703. Avail. now. (44)

DAVIS SQ. - SOMERVILLE

Two lesbians & cat seek woman to share sunny, spacious, 3-bdrm apt. Steps to T. W/D, yard. Alcohol/drug-free space. Rent \$375+. 666-9644. (20.1)

MEDFORD

L seeks 2F or lesbian couple to share house. Laundry, no pets or smoking. Safe neighborhood near Tufts. \$250 + util. each. 396-1074. (38)

ROOM FOR RENT

in lesbian-owned house. L and parrot seek L or any LF, BiF combination to share JP apt. Be easy-going, but responsible and reasonably tidy. Sense of humor preferred. No cats, dogs, smokers. Quiet, safe, washer/dryer, porch, alarm system, on-street parking. Close to #39 bus. \$315 includes heat. Call 524-7794, leave message.

COMFY 3 BDR HSE/ MEDFORD SQ

1/1 couple to share 2 flrs., drwvy, w/d, cable, porch & big yard! Pets ok. No smk/drugs. Avail. now. Sublet poss. \$370 inc. util. 391-7796.

A GREAT HOME FOR \$75

Melrose: Small furnished room w/skylight in large, updated, fine Victorian home. Central air, washer/dryer, offstreet parking, cable, deck, gardens, and many extras. Enjoy the quiet, security, spaciousness of the suburbs while only 17 minutes to downtown Boston from convenient T stop. Nonsmoking male. \$75 weekly including utilities. 665-6082. (42)

SOMERVILLE

Union/Porter Squares. 2F/1M seek 4th. Mixed orientation, 1 non-smoking, mostly veggie, mid-20s-30s, semi-coop/independent. Spacious clean, w/d, porches, garden. Cat. Buses. Available June 1 (sublet or longterm). \$310 (negotiable). 623-7595. (42)

WATERTOWN SQUARE

LF acupuncture student seeks woman to share apt. on river, 2 blocks from Watertown Sq., buses, etc., close to pike. Canoe in basement, outdoor pool down the block. \$337 +. 924-1317

3LF seek nonsmkr F for sunny rm in lovely apt. in JP W/D. dishwshr. Near bus, T, Aboretum. \$290 includes all. 522-6266. (32)

BROOKLINE VILLAGE

LF seeks nonsmoking roommate for first floor of 2BR house. Hardwood floors, dining room, kitchen, living room, porches, yard, piano, washer. Near buses and T. No pets. \$482+. Quiet street. Avail. Sept. 1. 730-9948 (45)

HAVE YOU GOT THE FEVER?

or are you just hot? Why write not a personal and prove it? \$10 buys you 10 weeks to see if anyone else thinks so. For a limited time, your personal can appear five times (ten weeks) for only \$10. See form on page 12 for details.

EAST ARLINGTON—WALK TO T

2 lesbians plus cat seek lesbian 25+ to share our home. Good communication, sense of humor, open to racial diversity. No smoke, drugs, minimum alcohol. Beautiful, spacious apartment. \$340+, 643-2426. (40)

WEST OF BOSTON

LF + dog seeks M/F to share home in country setting. 25 min. to Boston. Lg. yard, deck, pkg., W/D, DW, fireplace, mod. kitchen. 2 private rooms + bath. No smokers. \$450+. Call (508) 655-2623. (30)

SOMERVILLE

3rd sought by 2 plus cat, 3rd flr. Quietly beautiful large apt., 100 years old. Wood floors, laundry, clawfoot tub, big porch. Btwn Davis and Union Squares. Quick bus to Davis, Kendall, Lechmere and other T. Clean but relaxed. Good neighborhood, easy parking. We smoke. \$325+. Rachel, Chris or Jenny 776-2811.

HARVARD SQUARE AREA

LF seeks 25+ LF, Bi or SF to share 2 bedroom apt. 5 min from Harvard Square. W/D and fireplace. No smoking. \$337.50 utilities included.

Call 864-6609

Jamaica Plain. Newly renovated one-bedroom apt in 3-family. Enclosed porch, w/w carpt, lots of skylights. 492-4304 (49)

MEDFORD

Quiet 2Bdrm. apt. to share, w/d, walk to T. \$300 plu util./mo. 396-5418, 6-8pm. (40)

FEMALE HOUSEMATE

DAVIS SQ (NEAR RED LINE/TUFTS) Three women (womanist, of varied ages and sexual orientations) seek woman for our sunny, spacious, two floor apartment. Friendly, independent, quiet, homey. Next to laundromat, stores, park. Chem-free. \$300+ utilities, 2 phones, 666-2851, 628-7687. (40)

BIG HOUSE

2 LFs seek 3rd for 3 flr rent controlled house in Cambridgeport. Parking, yard, near T. Bdrm and study for \$286/mo. 661-6771 eves. (hrs)

LOVELY CONVENIENT SPLIT RANCH 3LF and 2 cats (no more please) seek fourth. Suburb, 5 min. to Tufts, 10 to Davis Sq. and Cambridge, near Rt. 93. Lovely 2 1/2 bath home, huge yard, gardens, patio, all amenities, fire-place, storage, parking, separate phone line. Non smoker, 30+ desired. \$300+, security. Available immediately. 729-8438.

QUIET COUNTRY RURAL LIVING.

SLF crafts-person seeks roommate, to occupy furnished room, shared kitchen/bath and washer/dryer. Vegetarian preferred, no smoking, no drugs, pets negotiable. 55 minutes north of Boston. 15 minutes to commuter rail. (603) 432-1081. Anytime. (28)

MAKING A HOME IN EAST ARLINGTON 1 friendly considerate LF seeks 1-2 LF's for really nice, spacious 3-bedroom. Convenient to T. Off street parking. Wood floors, sunny, porches, yard, basement laundry. Own phone line(s). Petless, smokeless. \$385+util. Call 648-0970. (30)

MEDFORD

Lesbian looking for housemate for large 2-BR apartment. Near Tufts, T, laundry, dogs okay. \$350 plus util. Loren 391-1084. (32)

NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Seeking woman to share townhouse Exit 8. Sunny, large bedroom/closet, washer/dryer fireplace, dishwasher, some storage. Friendly independent environment. No smoking. \$290+utilities. (603) 886-9445. (32)

ON STREET W/DIVERSITY

GM 40 seeking non-smoker in large sunny flat on 2nd floor. Washer/dryer \$400 includes utils. 524-0095 Near T. (32)

Wakefield 3 bed 2 bath contemporary DW, W&D, cable, parking. Near 128 & 93. \$400.00 mo. includes utilities. Dennis 246-1905. (32)

2ND AND 3RD FLOOR IN E. ARLINGTON 2LFs seek 3rd for spacious, sunny 3BR. Yard, porches, laundry, off-street parking, own phone line. No smk/pets. \$400 + util. Call 648-0970 or 648-1724.

NASHUA NH AREA

GWF, 33 sks same or GWM to share twnhse. Must like cats but no more pls. Lg BR, some storage, w/d, deck. \$350 + util. 503-595-2308.

JAMAICA PLAIN

3LF seek LF for spacious house close to Centre street and T. No smoking, no pets. \$300+utilities. 522-8235.

Somerville: Very clean, quiet, private GM, seeks M/F for beautiful apt. No pets, smoke, or drugs. Light cooking preferred, foreign coll. students welcome. \$300.00/mo. plus util. Details? call 625-9438 A.M.

SPACIOUS JAMAICA PLAIN APT.

Looking for two people to share fabulous 3 BR apt. Lots of great features, good location. Near T, 39 bus, Pond. Excellent rent \$300 +. Available May 1 524-7767.

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SOCIAL/ BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Social/Organization/ Business index, voice mail, FAX. Free listing. Indicate any or all three for details: SASE to The Meeting Room, Suite 600, Dept. G, 40760 Garfield, Mt. Clemens, MI 48044 FAX: (313) 792-5620 (43)

Boston restaurant for sale,

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PUBLICATIONS

WOMAN OF POWER

Woman of Power: A Magazine of Feminism, Spirituality, and Politics, an inspiring, thought-provoking, and visually stunning quarterly publication. Features feminist visionaries and activists in articles, interviews, artwork, photography. Each issue explores a central theme such as "The Living Earth," "Sacred Spaces," "Leadership," "Relationships," "Creative Arts." Subscriptions: \$26/year U.S.; single issue \$8; write for Canadian and overseas rates. *Woman of Power*, PO Box 2785, Orleans, MA 02653.

OFF OUR BACKS

Lively, down-to-earth feminism in the nation's oldest women's newsjournal. Analysis, reviews, conference coverage, and news-on health, feminist theory, reproductive rights, civil rights and political work among working, disabled, incarcerated, old and poor women, women of color, lesbians and women from every continent \$15/11 issues

LOVE BOYS?

NAMBLA seeks justice for men and boys interested in consensual relationships. Our monthly Bulletin features news, fiction, letters, art. Confidential mailing list. \$25/year. NAMBLA, POB 174, New York, NY 10018. (44)

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY

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WOMEN'S REVIEW OF BOOKS

Monthly review of current feminist writing. Since 1983. Our readers span the U.S., Canada, and abroad. Subscriptions: \$15/U.S., \$18/Canada, \$25/institutions. Free sample on request. THE WOMEN'S REVIEW, Wellesley Women's Research Center, Wellesley, MA 02181.(ex)

LESBIAN CONTRADICTION

A Journal of Irreverent Feminism. Quarterly of commentary, analysis, reviews, cartoons & humor by and for women who are political, open-minded and eager for dialogue. Sample \$1.50 sub. \$6 more if/less if. LesCon, 584 Castro, No. 236G, SF, CA 94114. (20.35)

BROOMSTICK

A quarterly national feminist political journal by, for, and about women over forty. 3543 18th St. #3, San Francisco, CA 94110. Yearly subscriptions: U.S. : \$15, Canada, \$20, (U.S. funds). Overseas and Institutions \$25. Sample copy \$5. Free to incarcerated women over forty.

"OH MY COCK"

"One queen, one cock, two balls and the copy machine at work." *Oh My Cock*, the nastiest little gay sex zine, is coming soon. For info, send SASE (legal envelope) to GCN Box OMC. (34)

Anthology of stories, poems on school experiences by lesbian and gay students/teachers. Inquiries with SASE to, Ellen Hart, Cowell College, UCSC, Santa Cruz,, CA 95064 (46)

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QUEER MONEY

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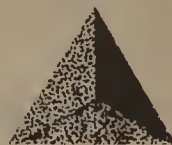
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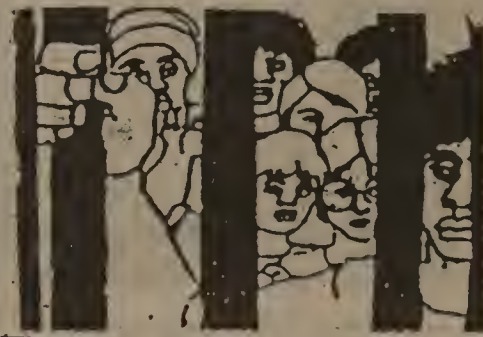
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PRISONERS SEEKING FRIENDS

MEN

Black male, down to earth, wishing to hear from anyone: any race, age, height. Just be open-hearted and down to earth, too. I promise to answer all, so make that move; I am very lonely. Lemrick Thomas #AY8797, P.O.Box 99901, Pittsburgh, PA 15253.

Penpal or good friend: am looking for a companion, about to be released soon. I am Ital/Span/Indian, 20, 168#, dark-complexed w/dk. br. eyes, into reality. Ramon Wise #31740, I.M.S.I., P.O.Box 51, Boise, ID 83707.

Latin gay male, 30, seeks correspondence from mature and responsible gay male for poss. relationship; age and race unimportant but honesty and sincerity a must. Please write: Joe Valdez #27833, P.O.Box 1989, Ely, NV 89301.

Hi! My name is Ronald, I'm 6'1", 200#, blonde, looking for a penpal to write to and learn from. If you'd like to write to a young man, I hope to hear from you soon. Ronald Stum #664373, Glades Corr. Inst. /E-45, 500 Orange Ave. Circle, Belle Glades, FL 33430.

I'm a 25 y.o. gay male ,br/bl, 150#, seeking another gay male to correspond with and more. Can't write other prisoners. If interested, please write: Joe L. Roney #169743, O.S.R., P.O.Box 514, Granite, OK 73547.

Confined GWM, country boy seeks friendship w/other gay males with big hearts who can provide a smile or two. Write w/photo to: Michael Sims #16752, P.O.Box 1989, Ely, NV 89301.

My name is Ricky, 27,5'9", 178#, bl/bl, very much into gays and bisexuals. Would like to write someone who really wants to get a serious relationship going. I'm well-endowed and a thrilling sensation in the bedroom! Thanks! Ricky Smith #104688, Florida State Prison, P.O.Box 747, Starke, FL 32091.

GBM, very lonely bottom fem., sensitive, romantic, political-minded. I enjoy male companionship, a fireplace up in the mountains, Blue Nun, genitals and lots of f***grease. Let's talk: James W. Metcalf #22730, Ely State Prison, P.O.Box 1989, Ely, NV 89301.

White aggressive male, 45, 6', 155#, br/br, seeking honest, lasting rel. w/TV or female impersonator. Please write: Harold Logston #863814, Westfield Corr. Ctr., P.O.Box 473-Dorm 3, Westville, IN 46391.

My name is T.J., GWM, 5'11", 208#, dk.br/rare eyes, into bodybuilding, sports, the arts. Locked up for 9 yrs. and desperately in need of companionship. Sex, age, looks unimportant: seeking friendship. Thomas James Fletcher #321987, "K-3-S-8", P.O.Box 747, Starke, FL 32091.

I'm 5'10", trim, 39, grayish hair/brown eyes, rough trade, vers., clever, fun, charming, sexy...shall I go on? Looking for serious and sincere gays, TVs, TS for writing, adventures, more. Chester Vinton Haas III, #327322, Ellis II Unit (G2-307 cage), Huntsville, Tx 77340-0002

I'm looking for a penpal to write to- no friends or family, or anywhere to go when I get out. I'm caring and loving and wish to hear from anyone. Sylvester Ryan Addison #158776, Housing Unit 2C1, Rt 2 Box 2222, Mineral Point, MO 63660.

I'm a white male, 18, 5'11", 145#, br/bl, clean cut, HIV-, uncut, like nude swimming, horses, pets, dirt bikes, fishing. In prison for DWI, like to hear from all ages, M or F. Eugene R. Dunlap #906107, Westville Corr. Ctr., P.O.Box 473, Westville, IN 46391-0473.

Honest 1/2 white/bm lonely 37 y.o. prof. NAMBLA/boy lover seeks penfriend to 17. I'm considerate, friendly, sensitive, fun, education-minded. My needs: plutonic rel. w/teen in need of man friend. Imprisoned for man/boy love sex. Please write: Chris Chapman #17628, P.O.Box 1989, Ely, NV 89301.

I would like to write someone. I'm 27, br/br, 5'7", 150# sincere and will answer all letters. Please write to: Mark King #104745, Hardee Corr. Inst., Rt. 2 Box 200, Bowling Green, FL 33843 ("Mail Box 745" in btm. left corner of envelope).

Single Black man, 34, 6'1", 165#, wants to someone who is emotionally available for loving friendship and more. Love cuddling and admire someone w/integrity and morals. Will answer all but fem. queens are what I'm looking for. Marvin Chance #91A-3340, Box 51, Comstock, NY 12821.

Attn. all queens of color: White male, 31, bedroom baby-blue eyes, reddish-brown hair, 5'7", 151#, well-blit., lots of tattoo's, looking for rel. w/special queen who can help me out from time to time. Like reading, working out, beaches, fireplace...send photo w/reply to: Danny L. Wilson #448540, Rt. 1 Box 150, Tennessee Colony, TX 75884.

I'm a 41 y.o. Black man in lock-up; need somebody to write me. Have no one on the outside and very lonesome. If you have the time, please write: Darryl Mickie #238642-3A233, P.O.Box 120, Lebanon, OH 45036.

The beauty of a human being is concealing the ability to communicate with understanding, warmth, compassion and happiness without judging another because of their trial and error in life. I am a 30 y.o. incarcerated African American who knows the importance of these qualities. TV or TS welcome. Kenneth Styles #D-54125 (3-12-121), 480 Alta Road, San Diego, CA 92179.

GWM 29, 5'11", sandy brown hair/lt.br. eyes, good conversationalist, hopeless romantic, seeking friendship, possibly more. Out soon. Please write: John Brady, Box 215, Maury, NC 28551.

I'm 24, 6', 175#, br/grn, fun-loving GWM looking for other gay males to write to. Very athletic, into sports, love intimate times and sharing myself. Will answer all-no head games please. Jeff Renz #105438, Dorm 6-LL, Northpoint Training Center, Box 479, Burgin, KY 40310.

Spanish Gay male, rel. in Oct., looking for ideal boyfriend- would like to parole to your place. I'm 5'5", 33, 145#, sensitive, reliable, caring and loving. Gilbert Martinez #A-63863, 100 Hillcrest Road, East Moline, IL 61244.

Sincere GBM, 41, fit and healthy, honest, loyal, loving, searching for sincere queen or TV to begin exciting future together. George Souffront #85-A-0761, Great Meadow Corr. Facility, Box 51, Comstock, NY 12821.

I'm 26, blk/brn, Puerto Rican/Apache, raised in orphanages, need someone to share their heart. Many interests, like simple things in life. Am open to all who write. Thank you. Norberto Johnny Vargas, P.O.Box C-22764- RM1C24, Tamal, CA 94974.

WOMEN

My name is Denise, and I'm looking for a penpal, someone who loves to write and who's honest and caring. I'm a sweet lady and I want to meet people. Please write: Denise Phillips #431244, Rt.4, Box 800, Gatesville, TX 76528.

I'm a Lesbian of 17 years, serving a 39-month sentence; I want very much to hear from someone. Please write: Linda Caldwell #500138, C.C.C.3-4, 2800 Gravier Street, New Orleans, LA 70119.

Calendar

3 FRIDAY

Provincetown ♦ Paul Lekakis/Kevin Costin/Jennifer Rivers dance party to benefit P'town AIDS Support. 8pm, Town Hall. \$18.50/door. Info: (508) 287-6273.

Brookline ♦ Am Tikva Shabbat Service, Temple Sinai school bldg., 50 Sewall Ave. 8pm. Bring something for oneq. Accessible. Info: 926-2536.

Greenfield ♦ Doshie Powers & Toto at Green River Café, 24 Federal St. 8pm, \$5 info: (413) 773-3312.

Boston ♦ 1776 at Gay/Les/Bi Center's Friday Night Video Series. 7pm. Info, location: 247-2927.

4 SATURDAY

Provincetown ♦ Fundraiser for Independence House for battered women. Games, psychics, gifts, raffle. Town Hall, 1-8pm. Info: (508) 255-2133.

Cambridge ♦ *Perfectly Normal*, 7pm, & *Together Alone*, 9pm. Part of Gay/Les Film/Video Fest. Co-spons. by GCN. 24 Quincy St. \$6. Info: 495-4700.

5 SUNDAY

Provincetown ♦ Patty Larkin, Cheryl Wheeler at Town Hall, 7pm. \$15.50-\$18.50. Reservations suggested. Accessible, smoke-free. Info: 783-0212.

Dorchester ♦ Dorchester GALA Beach Party Potluck at Frank & Dennis'. Info/directions: 825-3737.

Provincetown ♦ Philadelphia-based Wilderness Womyn sponsors P'town vacation, thru 7/12. \$175-\$295/person. Info: (215) 483-7937.

6 MONDAY

Cambridge ♦ Part III of Pride Celebration recap on Cable Channel 19, 7pm. Half hour of outrageous footage, commentary. Info: 723-5130.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap: Staying Single: Choice or Circumstance? 7:30-9pm, Women's Ctr., 48 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Cambridge ♦ DOB business meeting, 8pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. Info: 661-3633.

Brookline ♦ Gay/les/bi short-term classes in swing, ballroom, Texas 2-step, west coast swing begin this week. Info: Sara Brodsky, 522-1444.

7 TUESDAY

Cambridge ♦ 30+ Lesbian Rap: Why is 'getting it on' so hard? 7-8:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Cambridge ♦ BI Women's Rap: Women and S/M (with Urania). 7:30-9:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Cambridge ♦ DOB parents' and coparents' rap. Come with your ideas. 8pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. \$1. Info: 661-3633.

8 WEDNESDAY

Cambridge ♦ Battered Women's Support, 7-8:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Boston ♦ "Why People Have Sex." Boston Living Ctr., 140 Clarendon St., 7th Fl. 6-8pm. Co-spons. by Fenway Comm. Health Ctr. Info: 236-1012.

Cambridge ♦ Ovary Action (women's group of Queer Nation), 8-9:45pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Info: 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ DOB 35+/- rap, 8pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. \$1. Info: 661-3633.

Cambridge ♦ *On Missing Link Road* at MIT's Kresge Little Theatre, 77 Mass Ave., 8pm, thru 7/12. Free. Info: 876-2551.

9 THURSDAY

Boston ♦ Treating Skin Conditions In People with HIV/AIDS. John Hancock Conf. Ctr., 2nd Fl., 40 Trinity Pl. Wheelchair assistable. Free. For info or to request ASL: 267-0900, x287.

Cambridge ♦ Cambridge Chills: All That Glitters youth fashions, and Diversity (reggae, soca, ska, R&R). 6:30-9:30pm, Hoyt Field. Free. Info: 349-4380.

Dorchester ♦ Dorchester GALA business mtg., 7pm at Geiger-Gibson. Info/directions: 825-3737.

Cambridge ♦ Women's Writing Group, 7-9pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Portland, ME ♦ *Libraries in Defense of Intellectual Freedom*. Spons. by Matlovich Society. Rines Auditorium, Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq., 7:30-9pm. Access. Interp. Info: (207) 657-2850.

Cambridge ♦ DOB couples' rap: "Vacationing." 8pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. \$1. Info: 661-3633.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbians Choosing Children. 7:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Philadelphia, PA ♦ Biennial assembly of Lutherans Concerned, thru 7/12. At Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science. \$225-\$330. Info: PO Box 58801, Philadelphia 19102.

Boston ♦ A (*The Letter*): *The Musical* and *Police State*, one-acts, Mass. College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., 8pm, \$7, access. Also, 7/17 & 7/25. Info: 391-5493.

Jamaica Plain ♦ *Suddenly Last Summer* at Open Door Theatre, Pinebank Kettlebowl, Jamaica Pond Park. Thru 8/8. Thurs-Sat 8pm. \$10. Info: 524-4007.

10 FRIDAY

Boston ♦ *Suburban Snakes*, *Elegy*, and *Stopwatch*, one-acts, Mass. College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., 8pm, \$7, access. Also, 7/18 & 23. Info: 391-5493.

Brookline ♦ Am Tikva Shabbat Service, 8pm, Temple Sinai school bldg., 50 Sewall Ave. Info: 926-2536.

East Sandwich ♦ Jaime Morton at P.M. by the Sea. Info: (413) 247-9521.

11 SATURDAY

Boston ♦ *Off Hours*, *Doctor*, and *Pacts of Non-Aggression*, one-acts, Mass. College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., 8pm, \$7, access. Also, 7/16 & 7/24. Info: 391-5493.

Cambridge ♦ *Dressed in Blue*, 7pm, & *Via Appia*, 9pm. Part of Gay/Les Film/Video Fest. Co-spons. by GCN. 24 Quincy St. \$6. Info: 495-4700.

Cambridge ♦ Women's Writing Group, 12:30-2:30pm,

Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Hartford, CT ♦ Doshie Powers and Toto at Reader's Feast, 8pm. Info: (203) 232-3710.

Boston ♦ Training for volunteers to provide referrals/advocacy for homeless. Spons. by Amer. Friends Service Committee. 10am. Info: 542-0552.

Montpelier, VT ♦ Jaime Morton w/Jim Infantino at Pyrolyk Gallery. Info: (413) 247-9521.

Cambridge ♦ DOB singles' rap: "Vacationing." 7pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. \$1. Info: 661-3633.

Cambridge ♦ Finding and Surviving the Workplace. Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. 11am-1pm. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Boston ♦ Part III of Pride Celebration recap on Cable Channel A3/A8, 7:30pm. Half hour of outrageous footage, commentary. Info: 723-5130.

Provincetown ♦ Bernard Bihari, MD and Susan Paul, RN speak on AIDS and healthcare. 1-5pm, Town Hall 2nd Fl. Free. Info: (508) 487-3998.

Northampton ♦ Last day to view Paula Visnoski's Tribute to Women. Oils/watercolors at Up There Gallery, 90 King St., 10am-5pm. Info: (413) 586-7851.

12 SUNDAY

Braintree ♦ Gay/Les Alliance of South Shore (GLASS) victim recovery self-defense program 7-9pm at All Souls Church. Info: 340-2120.

Cambridge ♦ New Eng. Ass'n Les/Gay/Bi Psychologists. 11am-1pm, Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. Students, professionals. Info: 437-0948.

Burlington, VT ♦ Jaime Morton at Last Elm Café. Info: (413) 247-9521.

Boston ♦ Sea Party at Aquarium. 7:30pm. Tall Ships, cookout, entertainment, fireworks. \$35. For Fenway Comm. Health Ctr. Info: 246-CARE.

13 MONDAY

Cambridge ♦ Reproductive Rights Network (R2N2), 6:45-9:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Info: 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap: Are Lesbians Feminists? 7:30-9pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

14 TUESDAY

Cambridge ♦ BI Women's Rap: What Does Bisexuality Mean to You? 7:30-9:30pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Cambridge ♦ 30+ Lesbian Rap w/Pynk Panthers. 7-8:30pm, Women's Ctr., 48 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

Boston ♦ Greater Boston Business Council's Entrepreneur's Group. Topic: "Making Love to your PC," at Lafayette Hotel, 6pm. Info: 247-0711.

Woods Hole ♦ Healing service for all affected by AIDS. 7:30 pm at Church of Messiah, 13 Church St. ASL, partial access. Info: 628-7665.

15 WEDNESDAY

Boston ♦ How to Be Sexual and Sober. Boston Living Ctr., 140 Clarendon St., 7th Fl. 6-8pm. Info: 236-1012.

16 THURSDAY

Boston ♦ Dorchester GALA & Gay/Les Alliance of South Shore at Venus Seafood-in-the-Rough, 88 Sleeper Street. 7pm. Info: 825-3737.

Boston ♦ *Women of Wonder*, plays by Threshold Theatre. At Leland Ctr., Boston Ctr. for the Arts, 539 Tremont St. Thurs-Sat 8pm. \$10. Info: 965-3859.

Boston ♦ Drop-in support/discussion for HIV-neg. gay/bi men. Fenway Comm. Health Ctr., rm. 201, 7 Haviland St. Accessible. Free. For info/ASL interp: 267-0900 x287.

Cambridge ♦ Incest Survivors' discussion. Topic: body image. 7:30-9:15pm, Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice)

17 FRIDAY

Brookline ♦ Am Tikva Shabbat Service, Temple Sinai school bldg., 50 Sewall Ave. 8pm. Bring something for oneq. Accessible. Info: 926-2536.

New Hampshire ♦ White Mountains Getaway, thru 7/19, w/No. Shore Gay/Les Alliance. Info: (508) 745-3848.

SATURDAYS

Cambridge ♦ Singer Patti O'Keefe/ pianist Richard De Mone, Kendall Café, 233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave. 10pm-1am, no cover. Info: 661-0993.

Watertown ♦ DOB tennis, 9am, courts behind Arsenal Mall. \$1. 3rd Saturdays, thru Sept. Info: 868-0441 or 828-1038.

Boston ♦ 40+ Lesbians. Social group sponsoring potlucks, billiards, plays, brunches, new members welcome. For more info 891-3711, 599-4472.

Boston ♦ Prime Timers (older gay men) meets monthly. Info: 262-8685.

Cambridge ♦ Swingtime. Monthly lesbian, gay, bi swing dance with authentic big band sound. First Sat. of month. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. 8:15-9pm. \$6 Includes refreshments. For more info 629-2219.

Boston ♦ BLOW (Boston's Leathermen On Wheels). New social club for gay motorcyclists now forming. For more info and location 783-9296.

Boston ♦ Frontrunners. Meet at Metropolitan Health Club for 2 to 5-m. run along Charles. Lockers and showers \$1.00, 10am. Also: Tues. 11:45pm. at MHC; Wed. 6:45 pm. at Hatch Shell; Sun. 3:00pm. at Jamaica Pond Boathouse. Info: Sara 524-4025.

Cambridge ♦ Single Mothers' Support Group. Free drop-in group with child care, alternate Saturdays. Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 11am-12:30 pm. 354-8807.

Boston ♦ Pink Flamingos. TV/TS of New England. 4 to 6 pm. 338 Newbury St., 2nd fl. 247-2927.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Women's Coffeehouse. Musical entertainment, usually, 8 pm. Crone's Harvest, 761 Centre St. \$5 suggested donation. 983-9530.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Couples Group, 11am-1pm last Saturday each month, Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For info: Marcia (508) 531-8670 or (617) 354-8807.

Boston ♦ Morgan Memorial Goodwill Auction, 2nd Sat.

each month. Previews 9am. Auctions 10am-1pm. 1010 Harrison Ave. Free. Info: 445-1010.

Cambridge ♦ A multicultural story hour for children aged 3-8. Sponsored by FCHC and Lesbian Mothers Group. Thrd Sat. of every month. Info: 267-0900 ext 292.

Watertown ♦ DOB tennis, 9am, courts behind Arsenal Mall. \$1 donation. Thrd Sats. thru Sept. Info: 868-0441 or 628-1038.

Concord, NH ♦ New Hampshire Lambda meets 3rd Saturdays. Info: PO Box 1043, Concord 03301, or (603) 224-1686.

SUNDAYS

Concord, NH ♦ CAGLR meets 2nd Sundays, 4:30pm. Corner Main & Pleasant, above Pizza Restaurant. All welcome. Info: (603) 224-1686.

Woburn ♦ Chiltern Tennis Assoc. Meets each Sun. for singles and doubles. For more info (508) 670-0988.

New York, NY ♦ *Outlooks*, alt. Sundays, 7:30-8:30pm on WBAI 99.5 FM. By Gay/Les Independent Broadcasters. Info: Nicholas, (212) 348-3754.

Boston ♦ Boston Alliance of G/L Youth (BAGLY) Drop-In Center. St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin. (800) 42BAGLY.

Boston ♦ Gay Parents of Adolescents support group at Fenway Comm. Health Ctr., 7 Haviland Street. Last Sun. each month, Mar-May, noon-2pm. Daycare avail. Adolec. meet separately. Info: Jenifer, 267-0900, x282.

Boston ♦ Work Issues Support Group. 2 to 4 pm G/L Comm. Ctr., 338 Newbury St.

Boston ♦ Different Strokes Swim Team. Coached workouts for swimmers of all abilities. 10:15. Info: 767-0449 or 282-3110.

Cambridge ♦ Women's Group for Sobriety, 2-3:30pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Concord, NH ♦ United Church Coalition for Gay/Les/Bis. 2nd Sun. at 1st Congreg. Church, N. Main St. 5pm worship/potluck. Info: (603) 224-1686.

MONDAYS

Cambridge ♦ Battered Women's Support Group, 7:30-9pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ Women's NA 12-Step, 7:30-9pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Manchester, NH ♦ ACT UP/NH. Meets Mondays. For info/locations: (603) 746-3923.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Lesbians' Job Search Support Group, 1-2:30pm at Cronos' Harvest, 761 Centre St. Info: Sally, 524-0725.

Boston ♦ New Support Group for Recovering Women with HIV/AIDS. Sponsored by Women, Inc. Call Magda or Christine for a screening interview 442-6166.

Boston ♦ Monday Night Dinners for PWA's and Friends: about 100 people meeting every Monday at AAC for dinner. No reservations required. 6 p.m. AAC, 131 Clarendon St. 437-6200.

Dorchester ♦ Alcoholics Anonymous. First Parish Church, Mtg. Hs. Hill. Beginners 6:30, hardhats 8 p.m.

Boston TV ♦ PrideTime—Boston G/L TV, with Bill Barnert & Cynthia Pape. 7 pm Cambridge Cable Channel 19. Also Saturdays, Boston Neighborhood Network, 7:30 pm Channels A3&A8; and Somerville Cable Access Channel 3, Thursdays, 9 pm.

Boston ♦ Queer Nation meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at new location: Local 26, 58 Berkeley, 3rd Floor. 7:00 pm.

Worcester ♦ AIDS Project Worcester. A support group for family, friends, concerned others dealing with HIV. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 pm. (508)755-3773.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap Group. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 8-10 pm. 354-8807.

Cable TV ♦ "Between Takes." Often a g/l slant on events. Boston A3 Mondays 9:30 pm. Cambridge CCTV Thursdays 8:30 pm. Rhode Island Interconnect A Fridays 8:30 pm. Other areas: check listings.

Cambridge ♦ Partners, former partners of incest survivors. Some Mondays each month, 7-8:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant Street. Free. Info: 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap (topics vary) 7:30-9pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For more info 354-8807 (TTY/voice)

TUESDAYS

Cambridge ♦ Eating Awareness & Body Image Group, 7-9pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ Healing After Abortion, 7-8:30pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Boston ♦ "The Woman Poet." Local women poets read their work in a social setting every Tuesday. 7:30pm. Donation requested. G/L Center, 338 Newbury St. For more info 247-2927, 247-0579.

Cambridge ♦ Afternoon bicycling with Outriders (Chiltern Mountain Club cyclists). Departs Harvard Sq. Info: Bob, 266-3812.

Somerville ♦ Mtg. w/Mayor's Liaison to les/gay/bi community 2nd Tues each month at 7pm, 167 Holland St. Info: Christopher at 625-6600 x2400.

Boston ♦ Tefillat Refuat Hanefesh. "Service of the Healing of the Soul," for Jewish Patients, their families and healthcare providers. First Tues. of month. 6pm. For more info 566-3960.

Boston ♦ Gay Fathers of Greater Boston. Meetings held 1st and 3rd Tues. of month. Lindemann Center, 25 Staniford St. \$2 donation. 8-10pm. For info 742-7897.

Boston ♦ Boston Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays. 2nd Tues. of month. Harriet Tubman House, 566 Columbus Ave. For more info 424-6989.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Batucada Belles rehearsal. Open to women of color. Multicultural Arts Center, Centre St. 7-9pm. For more info 864-5067.

Providence, RI ♦ ACT UP/Rhode Island. Call for meeting place (401) 481-4191.

Gloucester ♦ Healing Circle / Positively Clean and Sober. Healing circle 6:30 to 8 p.m., open to anyone facing chronic or life-threatening illness. Pos. C&S 8 to 9 p.m., for people living with HIV and dealing with subst. abuse issues. N. Shore AIDS Project, 19 Pleasant St. (508) 283-0101.

Boston ♦ ACT UP/Boston. The Living Center, YWCA, 140 Clarendon St. 7 p.m. 49-ACTUP.

Cambridge ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap. The Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 7-8:30. 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ Eating Awareness and Body Image Group. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 7-9pm. 354-8807.

Medford Radio ♦ Dyke on the Mike with the Noisy Nelly Show — queer radio. WMFO 91.5FM.10am-12pm. Tufts U. radio. For info 381-3800.

Worcester ♦ Support Group for HIV+ G/B Men and their Significant Others. Closed meeting. AIDS Project Worcester, 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 p.m. (508) 755-3773.

Boston ♦ LG Freedom Trail Band Rehearsals. No audition necessary. Mass College of Art, Longwood and Brookline Ave. 7:15 p.m. 266-0628.

Boston ♦ The Buddy Program orientation. Sponsored by AAC. 4th Tues. of month. AAC offices, 131 Clarendon St. 7:30pm. For more info 437-6200 x455.

Cambridge ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap (topics vary) 7:30-9:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For more info 354-8807 (TTY/voice)

Cambridge ♦ 30+ Lesbian Rap (topics vary) 7-8:30pm, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. For more info 354-8807 (TTY/voice)

Boston ♦ Womyn-identified Writing Group: Poetry/short stories. Bring copies for critiquing. 7:30pm, The Center, 338 Newbury St. \$1 donation. Accessible. For more info 247-2927.

Amherst ♦ P-FLAG, Pioneer Valley Monthly meetings held 2nd Tues. of month. Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall. 6:30 pm. For info (413) 532-4883.

Boston ♦ Beantown Women's Rugby Club practice Tues/Thurs 8:30-9pm. All levels. For more info: Teresa at 787-3939/Laurie at 623-2341 (lv msg).

Portsmouth, NH ♦ Out and About volleyball league plays 6-8pm thru Aug. 18. \$5 fee + possible court fees. Pre-register: (603) 659-2139.

Framingham ♦ Framingham Regional Alliance of Gay/Lesb. Youth meets 1st & 3rd Tues. each month, 6-7:30pm at The Civic League Bldg., 214 Concord St. For 22 & under. Info: FRAGLY, PO Box 426, Framingham 01701.

WEDNESDAYS

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Alanon, 6:30-8pm at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Free. Accessible. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Cambridge ♦ Battered Women's Support, June 3, 10, 24, 7-8:30pm, Women's Center, 48 Pleasant St. Free. Info: 354-8807 (tty/voice).

Boston ♦ Women in the Building Trades will be offering free introductory workshops. 6:00-8:00pm from 10/30-12/4. At 555 Amory St. Call 524-3010 to pre-register or for info.

Cambridge ♦ Job search support group. Cambridge Women's Center. 6:30-8:30 pm. Info: 354-8807.

Amherst ♦ ACT-UP of Western Mass. meets 7:30pm at Bangs Comm. Ctr., 70 Boltwood Walk. Info: (413) 584-4213

Brockton ♦ Gay Men's Support Group, 7-8:30pm. Info/directions: Ron, (508) 580-8710.

Northampton ♦ Teen Support Group (19 & under). Meets afternoons. Facilitated by Pioneer Valley Gay/Les/Bi Youth Project. Mentors also available. Info: (413) 584-4213.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Al-Anon. Wheelchair accessible. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 6:30 to 8 p.m. 354-8807.

Springfield ♦ Names Project Meeting. New chapter with weekly quilting meetings. All welcome. Frontier, 19 Pearl St. 7 to 10 p.m. (413)788-7459

Worcester ♦ Supporters of Worcester Area G/L Youth (SWAGLY). Social support grp. for youths 22 and under. 7 to 9 p.m. United Congregational Church, 6 Institute Road. 7 to 9 p.m. (508) 755-0005.

Boston ♦ "Say it Sister"—feminist, gay-positive radio. WMBR 88.1 FM. 7pm.

Boston ♦ Bisexual Adult Children of Alcoholics. Mass. General Hospital. 7:30 p.m. Info: Marge 259-1559.

Bridgewater ♦ S. Shore G/L Alliance. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Bridgewater Ctr. Primarily a social group of age 25+, but all welcome. Info: Glen 293-5183 or Dave 294-0367.

Worcester ♦ Support Group for HIV+ who are in Substance Abuse Recovery. Closed meeting. AIDS Project Worcester, 305 Shrewsbury St. 7:30 to 9 p.m. (508) 755-3773.

A League of Their Own. Directed by Penny Marshall. Screenplay by Lowell Ganz and Babaloo Mandel, based on a story by Kim Wilson and Kelly Candaele. With Geena Davis, Madonna, Lori Petty, Rosie O'Donnell and Tom Hanks. Open nationally.

That championship season

The girl gang in *A League of Their Own*

Reviewed by Liz Galst

Baseball, schmaseball. You know what I mean?

I mean, what I mean is that given my bad associations with the game—not the least of which is that it serves as a metaphor for all that is “good” and “wholesome” about the U.S.—baseball is not enough to get me into a movie theater.

Madonna, however, is.

As is Geena Davis (who, despite being the film's unquestioned star, gets second billing to Tom Hanks). More than that, the story of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League—a league that began in 1943 and continued until '54—should be enough to get anyone to cough up the price of the ticket. Because as much as the movie is about a sport that, in my head, has heretofore been associated with highly-paid male athletes scratching their crotches in public, *A League of Their Own* is also very much a film about sisterhood and resistance and being the best you can be. It's about passion and skill denied and passion and skill recognized, even if that recognition comes only because a select group of men can make a lot of cash off of it. None of this is to say Penny Marshall's fourth feature film isn't amazingly *schmaltzidik* and fairly dishonest. It is, after all, a Hollywood picture. Nevertheless, I cried my eyes out, which, if you want to know the truth, is how I judge a good film.

Of course, upping the schmaltz ante here is the focus on the love and rivalry between Dottie Hinson (Davis) and her kid sister Kit Keller (Lori Petty—be still my beating heart!). Both are scouted by the hard-as-nails Ernie Capadino (Jon Lovitz), agent for baseball magnate and candy tycoon Walter Harvey (Garry Marshall). You see, what with all the big league (read: male) players going off to fight in WWII, there's a concern on the part of the President that the nation will be



(l-r) Rosie O'Donnell, Madonna, Geena Davis

denied its national pastime and a concern on the part of the franchise owners that they'll be out a lot of dough until it's over over there.

Thus, the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, an idea of Mr. Harvey's. The “girls” are scouted from all over the country for their talent and good looks (God forbid women should be judged on talent alone! Still, Dottie and Kit do have their own feminist moment when they force Capadino into taking power-hitting but not traditionally beautiful Marla Hooch, played by Megan Cavanagh, along to the try-outs with them).

Once they're picked for the teams (our girls start on the Rockford Peaches—lovely name, huh?), these heroines are forced to undergo all manner of indignity: cut-throat makeovers, finishing school, uniforms that make sliding a high-risk activity. Still they love the game, and they love each other (even if, contrary to reports in Lois Browne's soon-to-be-released book on the League, *Girls of Summer*, and contrary to the dykey looks of the real players who appear in the film's credits sequence, it's not in the carnal sense).

Columbia Pictures is trying to bill *A*

League of Their Own as an ensemble flick—much like many female bonding movies—and the girls do bond. They take the game and each other seriously, even if, until the very end, nobody else does. Madonna, playing herself as taxi-dancer-turned-center-fielder “All the Way” Mae Mordabito, teaches Shirley Baker (Ann Cusack) how to read with the help of some trashy novels. And for the most part, the Rockford Peaches are a girl gang like any other. They resist authority (in this case, in the person of their chaperone), they hang out, and their connections with each other are usually more important than their connections with men. (After Madonna and Rosie O'Donnell jitterbug their respective asses off down at the roadhouse, it's into each other's arms they fall, not those of their male dance partners.)

All the while, Marshall exposes us to the injustices the women face: the yucky publicity stunts, the Rosie the Riveter phenomenon, and in one subtle moment, the racism of the all-white league. Still, what prevents the film from realizing its true potential as a monument is the use of every contrived plot device imaginable. You'd think the story of the alcoholic coach (Tom Hanks) pulled onto the wagon by the skill and dedication of his players would be enough. But no. Marshall and her writers have thrown in the aforementioned rift between the two sisters, and the capitalist won over by the roar of the crowd, just in case you haven't been won over. (Maybe one day, Hollywood will learn how to tell a powerful story in a way that's supple and genuine; meanwhile, *A League of Their Own* isn't it.)

That doesn't mean you shouldn't see it, even if Madonna isn't your reason for living. For instance, the League members who were present at the screening I attended felt the film did a lot of justice to their participation in the game. Pat Brown, formerly of the Chicago Colleens and the Battle Creek Belles, told me: “When they said it was going to be a comedy, I was worried. But they didn't make fun of the women and they didn't make fun of the game. They took the ball playing seriously.”

In this day and age, that's a major victory. You know what I mean?

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